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A Cut-And-Paste Literary Masterpiece
The Things NIN Will Do For True Fans

WHO'S AFRAID OF CRISPINGLO
THE OFFBEAT ACTOR/DIRECTOR BRINGS HIS STRANGEST PROJECT YET TO METRO CINEMA

JULY 24, 2008 ISSUE 765



\*HOW TO EMTER: No purchase necessary. Contest closes 5:00 pm EST Monday, September 1st, 2008. Promotion available in Canada only to legal residents of, and of legal drinking age in the province the reside. There are (3) Grand Prizes available to be won, each consisting of a trip for 2 people to Enthados at the Almond Beach Village for six (6) nights and seven (7) days, with a retail value of CA. \$6,000.00 hassed on a Toronto departure. Odds of winning depend on the total number of eligible entries received by the contest closing date. Contest draw date is Friday, September 12th, 2008. Mathematical skill testing question required. For full contest rules and to enter online got to www.cracktheoconut.ca or text message the word "WEEKEND" to 212121 or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to "Mailbis" Crack the Coconut", EQ. Box 3590, Str. Industrial Park, Markham ON, L3R 609 with your full name, address, age and phone number. Entries must be received by 5:00 PM EST on Monday, September 1st, 2008.

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Thews sixth time's the charm?

Hana Razga has never come close to winning an election. So why is she preparing for yet another federal campaign?

### 14 city life consignment is not a dirty WORD

Shopping secondhand boutiques is haute, eco-friendly, and cheap—you might even find a choice celebrity castoff.

22 MUSIC THEY WOULD WALK 500 MILES Trent Reznor is better than anyone at keeping his "true fans" on their toes... but is he only exploiting their loyalty?

32 on screen Hell Bent For Ledger Is The Dark Knight the greatest film of all time? Well, it's good, but the IMDb needs a reality check.

39 arts a cut-and-paste masterpiece Woman's World is part Far From Heaven, part Glen or Glenda?, part ransom note, all genius.

**AZ**savage love **one is the homeliest** NUMBER THAT YOU'LL EVER DO

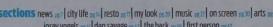
Strangers' comments about my ugly appearance have left me considering plastic surgery... or suicide.

50 the back assorted goodles Comics, crosswords, and more.

WHO'S AFRAID OF CRISPIN **GLOVER?** 

The offbeat actor/director brings his strangest project yet to Metro Cinema.

www.seemagazine.com Movie times, movie trailers, theatre locations, plus all your weekend entertainment.



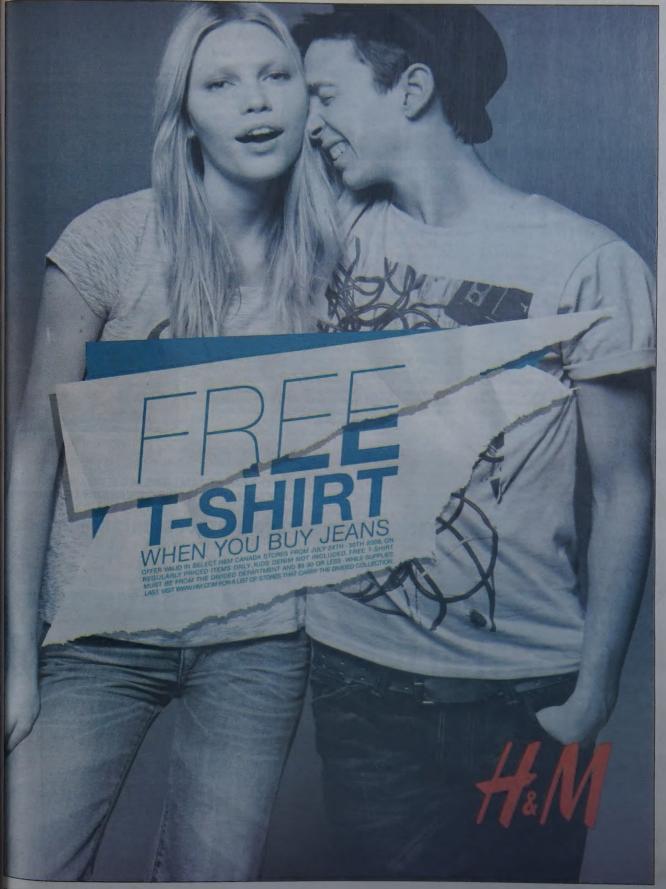
Sections news pg7 city life pg14 resto pg17 my look pg20 music pg22 on screen pg30 arts pg39 josey vogels pg 41 dan savage pg 42 the back pg 46 first person pg 47

EAR TO THE ASPHALT | PAGE 25 WHEN WE PLAYED IN SPAIN, I BROUGHT MY ADOLESCENT SON. AND WHEN WE SHOWED UP FOR SOUNDCHECK, WE FOUND OURSELVES ON A NUDE BEACH.

# **Island Time?**

Island time means different things to different people, but for most of us on Vancouver Island it simply means quality time. And quality is exactly what you'll find at The Culinary Institute of Vancouver Island at VIU in Nanaimo, BC. Quality faculty. Quality programs. Quality environment. You'll quickly discover that Island Time also means time to enjoy what an Island education has to offer. Only minutes from one of the most pristine outdoor environments in Canada, you'll find that to study here is to play here. In fact, we may just have the perfect recipe for living and learning. Visit us at www.viu.ca/culinary and discover what an Island education has to offer. Your timing couldn't be better.





### JULYZA

pastinne BonFire Calendar is certain that Mr. Janzen never met Jim Morrison, but if old John were still alive, we're sure he'd be wearing a porcupine suit, swinging a jug of gasoline, and singing, "Come on baby, light my fire." John Janzen

Nature Centre, 8:30pm.

### friday

music TREWS & TUPELO
HONEY Mmmm... sweet sticky
sounds, Van Morrison innuendoes, a midway, gambling, and
beer gardens nearby. You say
"awesome" and Calendar says
"frew dat." www.capitalex.ca.

### saturday

JULY 26

livestock | PBR PRO-FESSIONAL BULL RIDERS IF you've never seen a hardened cowboy with 2,500 pounds of thrashing muscle between his legs, or if you have and can't get enough, mosey on down to Rexall for a taste of Alberta heritage. 8pm.

### JULY

Trews, Ed Fest, July 25

dairy | MOLY COM! Even if you replaced the Ganges with the North Sasstathewan and substituted india for Edmonton, you probably won't find too many Hindus at this event. However there will be plenty of sacred dairy treats there. John Walter Museum, 1-5 pm.

### JULY 20

TTULSIC ANI DIFFANCO
Talk about a résumé of a
stanving artist-this girl's
paid her dues! At the age of
nine, she was busking on the
street and playing Beatles
covers in bars. That's pretty
badass no matter who you
are. Winspear Centre. 8pm.

### JULY 29

Film | GIRLS ROCK! Head off to summer rock camp, where it's perfectly acceptable to sweat, scream, and wall on the instrument of your choice, even if you have no musical experience. Oh, and sorry, guys... no boys allowed. Metro Cinema, 7pm.

### JULY

COMECTY JOHNNY
GUARDHOUSE You may recognize him as that "boomerang-ducking guy" from the Sensodyne TV ads, so if you use toothpaste, Calendar figures this show is definitely for you. The Comic Strip, 8pm.

### JULY.

SPORTS EDMONTON
ESKIMOS VS. B.C. LIONS
The Eskimos are taking
on the Lions, but Calendar
isn't worried. That B.C.
team is nothing but a pack
of pussies. Screaming and
tomfoolery are encouraged.
Commonwealth Stadium,
Rom.

### AUGUST

PARFEST
Things you'll need: tarot
cards, magic wand, assorted
crystals, sacrificial lamb
(may be substituted for a
goat), ritualistic garb (e.g.,
cape or pointed hat), and
anything else you might
need to open Aphrodite's
Temple, www.parfest.org.

### AUGUST

festival | EDMONTON HERITAGE FESTIVAL This is it, people: the manifest it on of what Canada is all about. Representatives from 75 cultures will occupy 60 tents to feed, enterfain, and educate you in the ways of the world. Hawrelak Park, www.heritagefestival.com.

### AUGUST3

treasure | GOLD PAN-NING Edmonton ain't called the "gateway to the north" for nothing. Come bust out your mad pan skillz or learn from the experts. Or if you're short on rent this month, maybe you'll get ludky and hit the mother lode. John Walter Museum, 1-5pm.

### **AUGUST**

ACTORS ON FILM Calling
all youth warting to
make it big on the silver
screen, or simply looking to
saisty insatiable naricsistic
tendencies. FAVA welcomes
Michael Bean, who will
be divulging acting and audition techniques. 2-4pm.

### AUGUST 5

Sports | CRACKER CATS
VS. YUMA SCORPIONS
The Scorpions will be hopping aboard the pain train
as the Cats will be looking to
kick ass Russell Crowe/Christtian Bale-style-minus the
cowboy boots and six-shooters. Telus Field, 7:05pm.

### AUGUST 6

TTIUSIC | MUHLEDY
This "collective" brings a sophisticated awareness of texture and groove to their improvisational, experimental free-styling jazz methodology, And to top it off, they have it MySpace friends. Four Rooms (426-4767)

### AUGUST 7

TOUSIC EDMONTON
FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL
Last year, we braved the
treacherous mud hill; this
year, we'll brave anything
that tries to get in the way
of Edmonton's A-list hippie
fest. Gallagher Hill. www.
edmontonfolkfest.com.



pastime | July 24 IF OLD JOHN WERE STILL ALIVE, HE'D BE WEARING A PORCUPINE SUIT, SWINGING A JUG OF GASOLINE, AND SINGING "COME ON BABY, LIGHT MY FIRE!"

see magazine's two-week forecast of events in edmontor

listings: news and city and music and film caps and arts



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# news&opinion

# I ALWAYS RUN AS IF I'M GOING TO WIN. THERE HAS TO BE A LITTLE BIT OF CRAZY BELIEF THAT MAYBE THE TIDE WILL CHANGE.

LOCAL POLITICS . PERPETUAL CANDIDATES . BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT 1980 words

### Sixth Time's The Charm?



There She Goes Again | Hana Razga takes up the NDP flag for the sixth time in just over a decade. PHOTO BY IAN JACKSON

HANA RAZGA HAS NEVER
COME CLOSE TO WINNING AN
ELECTION. SO WHY IS SHE
PREPARING FOR YET ANOTHER
FEDERAL CAMPAIGN?

ust three months after a huge loss in Edmonton-Whitemud to Progressive Conservative cabinet minister Dave Hancock in the provincial election, Hana Razga is set for yet another gweling campaign.

The perpetually hopeful NDP candidate was recently nominated in the federal riding of Edmonton-Leduc, which means she'll be mounting her sixth attempt at gaining elected office in just over a decade.

Over the phone from the Ottawa inport, she's speaking in a lowered roice that, even after 40 years in Alberta, still reveals traces of her Czechoslovakian past. She's heading home to Edmonton after a six-week tint as a human resources pinchitter for the federal government. The 61-year-old is technically retired, but takes on odd jobs to fuel her electoral and other ambitions.

Her usual perkiness and easy laugh re a bit muted as we go over her revious runs for office. Her latest rovincial run in Edmonton-White-nud against Hancock was bad, she dmits, but then, that election was ad for everyone except the Conseratives. Last October she ran in the municipal election in Ward 4. She rought a decidedly green tint to that ace, with promises to ban drive-hrus and switch municipal buildings o solar or wind energy, but placed a istant sixth on election night.

Before that, she ran in the 2001 and 1997 provincial elections in Ednonton-Manning, and federally in 1997 in her home riding of Edmonton-East.

Whew! That's a lot of door-knocking. Her latest federal run will be her sixth in Alberta as an NDP candidate (or a candidate endorsed by the party). Despite her defeats, she's still optimistic about her chances in Leduc.

"I always run as if I'm going to win," she says. "You can't do it otherwise. There has to be a little bit of crazy belief that maybe the tide will change."

### **Scorning The Numbers Game**

Razga's previous performances don't bode well for her this time out, even if you overlook the underdog status that attaches to any NDP candidate.

In the recent Edmonton-Whitemud race, she placed third and gained five per cent of the vote. In the 2007 municipal election, she placed sixth and gained 4.6 per cent of the vote. She fared better in her 1997 federal run, with about 12 per cent of the vote—but that's still a far cry from a groundswell of support. And when each loss rolled in on election night, Razga was deeply disappointed.

So why run? Why open yourself up over and over again to that kind of rejection? No matter how you phrase the question, Razga always smiles and says she wants to change Alberta and Canada. As a comfortably retired woman with grown children, she has the time and energy to try, so why not give it a shot? And another and another?

Jim Lightbody, a political science professor at the University of Alberta and a longtime observer of Edmonton-area politics, says many multiple candidates view themselves as public servants, whose political runs fulfill a democratic need for contested elections. Others have a "psychological need to be liked," he says, and in some ways an election run serves their ego.

And five defeats is hardly the local record, he says. Take Edmontonian Joe Clarke. He was mayor from 1919 to 1920 and again in 1935 to 1937, but he ran and lost a couple dozen times at different levels of government besides those wins.

In more recent memory, Dave Dowling, the token Marijuana Party representative and recent mayoral candidate, frequently turns up on various ballots. Lightbody points to the multiple runs of Peggy Morton for the Communist Party and Jerry Paschen for the Green Party. Both Edmontonains can be counted on to run for their respective parties at different levels of government.

Regardless of their chances or motives, Lightbody is glad so many people throw their hat in the ring. "It speaks to the strength of our democracy that people feel they have a chance," he says.

And democratic vibrancy is one of Razga's goals. She wants gender equality in all aspects of politics, and running for office is one way she can ensure at least one woman participates in candidate debates and town halls. She also wants to ensure that the environmental and social justice issues she's so passionate about are heard.

In the Edmonton-Leduc contest, that means calling for Omar Khadr's return to Canada from Guantánamo Bay and voicing support for Stéphane Dion's controversial carbon tax. She warned that Edmonton

shouldn't rush any expansion plans into Leduc. On the oilsands, though, she's hesitant to call for federal action.

### **Building Green**

At the other end of Edmonton, Alberta Green Party deputy leader Peter Johnson, another multiple candidate, will soon begin his preparations for a second federal run in Edmonton-St. Albert. In some ways, the two perpetual hopefuls are alike. Both are political junkies who voraciously consume newspapers, books, and televised political debates. Both are willing to run outside their home riding to represent their respective parties. The difference is, Johnson isn't holding his breath for a victory.

"I'm not expecting to win in St. Albert," he says with a self-deprecating laugh. The current generation of Green candidates is building the foundations of the party, and are not necessarily in the game to win seats. Besides a couple of high-profile candidates like power-line activist Joe Anglin in Lacombe-Ponoka and federal Green Party leader Elizabeth May, Johnson thinks it'll be five years before the Green Party begins their work as elected representatives.

For him, elections serve as way to spread his environmental message. His first stops in St. Albert will be at high schools, because he says it's the younger generation that really understand the urgency of global warming."I'm really concerned with the direction society is heading in," he says. "It's really not sustainable, however you look at it. It's got to change. One of the most effective ways of promoting change is through the political system... such as it is."

### NEWS BRIEF BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT

ALBERTA · AISH
EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS
FOR THE UNEMPLOYABLE

Disabled Albertans will be able to take home more of their employment income under new AISH (Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped) rules Premier Ed Stelmach announced on Monday.

The first \$400 that an AISH recipient earns doesn't interfere with the provincial benefits at all. For singles, wages over \$400 and up to \$1,500 are only 50 per cent exempt, with the other 50 per cent deducted from the disabled person's AISH cheque. (The previous income cap was set at \$1,000.)

While Liberal MLA Laurie Blakeman welcomes the changes, she's skeptical about the number of people the program will actually help, considering that, in order to qualify for AISH, applicants need a doctor's note saying they can't work. Of the roughly 37,000 Albertans currently receiving the government support, only 7,000 or 5 per cent are currently employed.

In addition to the increase in allowable employment income, Blakeman called for indexed benefit increases.

CANADA • TRADE
TILMA LOVES COMPANY

Albertans angry that the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TiLMA) with British Columbia was not openly debated before it was signed are about to set some company.

Although the Yukon specifically rejected TILMA in June, they signed onto a separate but very similar agreement at the premiers' conference last week in Quebec.

The Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT), the national agreement on trade between the provinces, has been in effect since 1995. At the Council of the Federation, Canadian premiers agreed to enlarge AIT, including such changes as mutual recognition of professional credentials.

After the Yukon announced their rejection of TILMA, Stephen Rose. a Yukon economic development director told SEE that they didn't want to open themselves up to \$5 million fines included in TILMA for non-compliance. AIT now includes these fines.

While AIT isn't defined as TILMA, the principles are similar, says Hugh McKenzie, an economist with the Canadian Centre For Policy Alternatives. And that means lower standards for all Canadians. For example, the premiers agreed to mutually recognize vehicle registration for transport trucks. McKenzie says that means businesses will register their trucks in whatever province has the lowest (and therefore cheapest) safety standards. He points to the European Union's negotiated universal standards as the way Canada should encourage trade.

# STELMACH KEEPS CHANTING WE ARE ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS—NO, WE'RE NOT. —UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE POLITICAL SCIENTIST PETER MCCORMICK, QUOTED IN THE CALGARY HERALD



Hot dogs and hamburgers get handed out during a barbecue in Giovanni Caboto Park for people living in poverty put on by the Urban Core Support Network.

### **OUR COMMENT ON THIS WEEK'S NEWS**

EDMONTON - REGIONAL PLANNING SPRAWL, SPRAWL, SPRAWL

Edmonton's land hunger knows no bounds. A leaked report obtained by the Edmonton Journal stretches a tentative, exploratory hand into the possibility of Edmonton expanding south into Leduc County and enveloping the international airport.

The associated taxes are supposed to be the lure, but in order to get there, the city would have to stretch out items like emergency services, roads, and sewers even farther than they already are. These are costly measures—costly enough, arguably, to defeat the very purpose of the expansion. reveals how quickly we are currently eating up land. The city's 2007 EcoVision Annual 4,000 hectares of agricultural land has been rezoned, more than half of it for residential annexation and start thinking about tall buildings and better planning.

#### ALBERTA · HEALTHCARE UNDEMOCRATIC AND UN-CONSERVATIVE

Calgary-based consulting firm McKinsey and Company Canada was recently contracted to review Alberta's health system.

That's right: only after dissolving all nine regional health boards did the provincial government decide that obtaining an overall review of the current problems within the healthcare system might be a prudent

The guestion remains: If Ron Liepert had no research backing up his claims that a centralized system will serve Albertans better, then why was he able to implement it with so little public discussion? Why wasn't it mentioned during the election?

And while agreeing with the Canadian wants to cultivate, those retirement packages the government is handing out to former regional health CEOs are huge. Seri even looks like?

### **ALBERTA · OPPOSITION POLITICS** UNBURDENING THE LEFT

Albertans will know by Christmas who will lead the Alberta Liberals after Kevin Taft steps down, the party announced last week

That means that the leadership race will take place after the fall convention, which should bring to a head all the current talk about what the Liberal Party should look like in the coming years—and if there should even be a party at all. And really, the possibility of an entirely new party would be a much more exciting Christmas present than thinking about who will thanklessly trudge through the next election against the Progressive Conservatives.

The Liberals are flexible enough to accommodate a wide range of opposition values, but the the internal debate about the party's future (which will only get louder over the coming months) makes us skeptical about whether keeping the Liberal name while forging a coalition is a gymnastic trick the little red machine can pull off.

### BY THE NUMBERS

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\*SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

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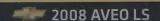
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### The Reluctant Activist

WEST RHI SEARS

LOCAL FARMER FIGHTS COAL GASIFICATION PROJECT NEAR TOFIELD, AND DISCOVERS HIS INNER ACTIVIST

Less than a year ago I was looking forward to retirement after spending my life farming near Tofield, southeast of Edmonton. Retirement was supposed to be mechanice to travel and pursue other, less stressful interests. Today I'm lighting to save my home, my land and my community. As a result of this work, people often ask me if I consider myself an activist I'm not sure how to answer, because I never considered myself political before. At least, not until a coal gusification project was proposed in my community.

Almost two years ago, Sherritt International, along with funding partners the Ontario Teachers Pension Fund and City of Edmonton-owned EPCOR, announced the Dodds Roundhill coal gasification project. Located less than 100 miles southeast of Edmonton, the project would include at least two plants turning coal into synthetic gas, which would in turn supply the planned upgraders in the Redwater and Fort Saskatchewan area with energy.

The plant's accompanying strip mine would, over its life, mine 312 square kilometres of prime agricultural land (approximately half the area occupied by the City of Edmonton). The area is also dotted with natural areas and wetlands and is an important recharge area for Beaverhill Lake.

My home, most of my farm, and more than 100 of my neighbours' farms lie in the path of this strip mine. I have spent a lifetime building this farm, as did my father and his father before him. As I look out upon the fields, I see a farm that continually increased in productivity. My family nurtured and improved the soil by making a conscious decision to leave some natural areas intact, including native trees, grasslands, and wetlands. We prided ourselves on having a well-kept yard with many trees.

My home, yard, and fields will all be wiped out. To reach the coal underneath the soil, everything on the surface must be removed. This can mean removing up to 40 metres of soil—or "overburden," to use an industry term. The coal is removed, after which the soil is replaced as "reclaimed" land.

Why don't I just refuse to sell my land? Well, I may not have a choice

in the matter if the Alberta Energy Resources and Conservation Board (ERCB) decides a coal mine is in the best interests of the people of Alberta. Even though I own my farm. I only hold surface rights to my land. The rights to the minerals underneath the soil are sold to companies by the provincial government And the ERCB can rule that mineral rights trump surface rights.

Toefield is not the only hotspot in the rapidly heating conflict between rural residents and developers. Farmers in the Redwater area are trying to protect their farmland from incoming oil upgraders. Up north, First Nations people downstream from the tarsands are concerned about the safety of their water. Rural residents all over Alberta are worried about sour-gas wells. True, these issues have been there since the first oil well was drilled. What has changed is the pace of development and the feeling that landowners are easily sacrificed in the rush to develop Alberta's natural resources as quickly as possible.

As landowners, our best chance of protecting our rights is to take our causes to the court of public opinion. And so we set up landowners' groups, such as the one I belong to, the Voice of Community And Land

Society (www.vocalalberta.com)

The fight takes over our normal lives, and pushes on us into a public role none of us want Families, businesses, and personal lives are sacrificed. We do it because we believe someone must stand up to protect

our rights. We do it because we believe there is more to Alberta than gas, oil, and coal. If I sound like an activist to you, then perhaps I am one I still try to think of myself simply as a citizen standing up for what I think in right.



### CALL TO ARTISTS ANIMAL SERVICES BUILDING

The Edmonton Arts Council, on behalf of the City of Edmonton, invites all Canadian and international artists to submit proposals for a public artwork at the Animal Services Building. The artwork proposal should reflect relevance to contemporary art practices. This open competition is held in accordance with the City of Edmonton policy "Percent for Art to Provide and Encourage Art in Public Areas" (C458B).

Budget: \$51,200 CAD (maximum, all inclusive)

Deadline for Submissions: 4:30 PM Friday, August 29, 2008

Installation: March 2010

#### **CALL TO ARTISTS - SOUTH TRANSIT GARAGE**

The Edmonton Arts Council, on behalf of the City of Edmonton, invites all Canadian and international artists to submit proposals for ■ public artwork at the South Transit Garage. The artwork proposal should reflect relevance to contemporary at practices. This open competition is held in accordance with the City of Edmonton policy "Percent for Art to Provide and Encourage Art in Public Areas" (C458B).

Budget: \$80,000 CAD (maximum, all inclusive)
Deadline for Submissions: 4:30 PM Friday, August 29, 2008
Installation: Fall 2009

### **CALL TO ARTISTS - CENTENNIAL WINDOW**

The Edmonton Arts Council, on behalf of the City of Edmonton, invites artists to submit qualifications for the production of the Centennial Window, a stained glass window gift from the City of Edmonton to the Government of Alberta, to be located in the Alberta Legislature Public Gallery Chamber.

Budget: \$50,000 CAD (maximum, all inclusive)
Deadline for Submissions: 4:30 PM Friday, August 29, 2008
Installation: Spring 2009

An information package for the above competitions can be downloaded from our website:

www.edmontonarts.ab.ca/publicart/publicartcalls.html.



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SOUTH OF THE BORDER · PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION (613 words

### **Low Politics And Lowered Expectations**

DON'T WORRY: OBAMA'S HALO WILL NEVER BE TARNISHED BY AN ACTUAL STINT IN THE

Democratic presidental nominee Barack Obama is up in the polls but I still don't think he's going to be the next president of the United States. I of Americans who'll bother to cast a ballot in November will opt instead for Republican John McCain. But the good news for Obama fans is that they'll be able to keep believing in him for years afterward, because he'll never get the chance to disappoint them as president.

To those who look forward to an tional politics, take heart. He's probably better off in the popular imagina-

stays with him-or how long it will be before a wayward opinion or two compels Obama to jettison them much as he split with his former pastor Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

If Obama became president, there would inevitably come a point in his administration, as with Carter's where he would have to make a decision that would alienate a lot of foreigners, not to mention his core supporters at home. For Carter # was the decision to get tough with the Soviets over their invasion of the return of Cold War politics came under Carter, not Reagan. Those who blame George W. Bush for the current state of the world would do well to remember that, just as they should who bombed Iraq and Sudan in the 1990s, and who set the stage for a renewal of long-term Russian hostility by expanding NATO eastward.

ANYONE WHO BELIEVES THAT AL GORE WOULD NOT HAVE INVADED AFGHANISTAN OR IRAQ IF HE HAD BEEN IN THE WHITE HOUSE IS DREAMING.

who lost at the polls but went on to Al Gore, who has been wise enough not to spoil his legacy and his image as a statesman by taking another

As a wise old political activist once told me, elections are about screwing your enemies, while governing is about screwing your friends. As president, Obama would be bound idealistic fans, who would not understand why, for example, his foreign reminiscent of Bush's. Obama's pubtrips to Afghanistan and Iraq in recent days, are designed to convince wavering American voters of the minent reversal. This is one way he's exploiting his supposed "softness"

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long Obama's foreign policy team,

Most Americans believe that Bush's foreign policy has been disastrous. of the problems we face in the world the international system and are not or even ideologies. This is particu larly true in a policy-making environment like Washington, where the diffusion of decision-making powe can halt a president in his tracks.

Anyone who believes that Al Gor would not have invaded Afghanistan or Iraq if he had been in the White House is dreaming.

Gore would have been more likely to consult and to make a better effort at generating an illusion of consen sus and reliance on diplomacy, and he probably would have implemented his policies more competently. foreign policy decisions would have

And as much his most ardent suptend that he is something new under most certainly prove them wrong. inexileeverywhere@gmail.com



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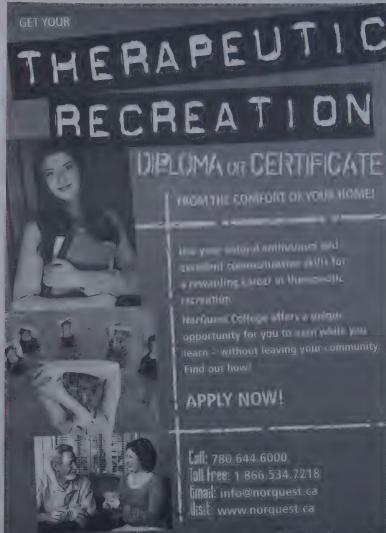
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# city life

-CAPRICE CONSIGNMENT CLOTHING OWNER GLENDA POLA

FASHION · SECONDHAND · BY DIANE KLAVER | 702 words

### **Consignment Is Not A Dirty Word**







To Stuffy Department Store Clerks | Shopping at Caprice in Glenora is like retail therapy. PHOTOS BY IAN JACKSON

SHOPPING SECONDHAND BOUTIQUES IS HAUTE, ECO-FRIENDLY, AND CHEAP—YOU MIGHT EVEN FIND A CHOICE CELEBRITY CASTOFF

Years ago, the word "consignment" evoked images of dingy stores stowed away in rough neighbourhoods where only people down on their luck would be caught shopping. Now, with glamourous boutiques carrying brand names like Prada, Gucci, and Chanel, shopping consignment has become a chic alternative for budgetsavyy shoppers—especially teens and young adults who want to get away from the cookie-cutter styles offered by the mail?

"Consignment stores have changed over the years," says Glenda Polak, owner of Caprice Consignment Clothing in Glenora. "They're not the dirty, dark, smelly thrift-type store. I always say you can afford Dolce & Gabbana on a Gap budget."

At Caprice they play "dress-up": customers explain what they're looking for and the staff pulls items suiting their needs, often completing outfits from head to toe. And if your retail therapy session runs over your lunch break, they'll smooth things over with your boss. "In fact, we

tell [customers] that we'll even give them a note excusing them," Polak laughs, "saying their retail therapy session went longer than anticipated but was very successful."

Getting luxurious clothing at a fraction of the original cost has attracted many who feel consignment is part of being a wise consumer. And many of the items being consigned still have original tags on them, or have been used only once, according to Carol Harper, manager of Vespucci Consignment on 102 Avenue. "You wouldn't believe there are ladies who only use a purse once," said Harper. "We have [consigners] who change their wardrobe every six months."

And if buying Victoria Beckham label jeans for less then \$100 isn't enough to entice you, maybe the chance of stumbling across celebrity-worn couture will. Since opening Vespucci Consignment in 1988, owner Diane Rawlinson has forged relationships with the local movie industry and occasionally consigns items from movie sets. Recently Rawlinson sold a BCBG black sleeveless dress worn by Neve Campbell in the new TV series Burn-Up. The cost? Only \$228. (Interestingly, Jenifer Argo, an associate professor of marketing, business economics,

and law at the U of A, has found that people are reluctant to buy clothing that has been in contact with another person unless that person has celebrity states.)

Women aren't the only ones hopping on the consignment boat. Dress to Suit on Jasper Ave is one of a handful of local consignment stores catering to men. Besides carrying designer names, owner Val Calvert offers a colour draping service, a process that involves comparing a series of suit colours to a man's complexion and hair to see which shades flatter

Whether you're a man or a woman the key to successful consignment shopping is to shop often. "We get many, many new things every day. Polak says, "so the stock is always changing. The shoppers who gets the best items are those who come in frequently."

And do take your time: shopping consignment is not like shopping in a department store, and shoppers need to commit to combing the racks thoroughly. It's also important to try on items, even if it is your usual size Many items have been altered, have shrunk, or were labeled wrong in the first place.

### **Alberta Bears Love Those Nuts**



A CAMPING TRIP TO SOUTHERN
ALBERTA OFFERS PLENTY

ALBERTA OFFERS PLENTY OF WILDLIFE, WINDMILLS, AND ONE WEIRD-ASS STARSHIP ENTERPRISE

It's the dead of night. Nestled between mountains, we're less than an hour from the American border.

The scraping sound at the side of tent wakes me up; the excited snuf-fling, low-vocal groan wakes her.

"What was that?" she asks.

"A Cookie Monster?" I joke—but I have, you know, kind of a bad feeling, in the about-to-be-eaten sense of the phrase. I make a fainthearted growl, immediately thinking "diot."

Instead, I use the old standby in case of mugging tightly grab the SLR strap (as a mace)... unzip the tent window. And?

Right outside, in the dark, something low and black and mediumsized. But, thankfully, moving away. A bean-shaped, fat-ass deer? Even hoofers act like fucking retards if you piss them off. Let's face it, though: it's a bear. "What is it?" she asks. "Can you see it?"

"A deer," I lie, so she can (a) sleep and (b) die a horrible death on account of my stupidity. Neither happens. But whatever it is, it's over by the dead campfire now, so Cookie Monster'll do. The next morning, a ranger confirms: bear activity.

Turns out, we're camping. Down by Crandell Lake in Waterton National Park, where all you have to do to get to the United States is cross the right undefended mountain pass.

They still hold on to that brotherly ideal tightly down here—there's even a peace monument, as if everything

since Nixon didn't happen at all.

On the lake itself, during a general air of God-fearing in the 1920s, drinking and dancing were forbidden on the Canadian side on Sundays. So groups of people long dead now would get on the boat and ease over the unseen border then show up again at dawn, hungover and perhaps pregnant with your grandparents. I love the story.

What rules in recent hindsight is

in the earth. About what they might look like in 100 years. Still, beautiful. Imperfect and expensive as the oil cultists will tell you, but fledging technology the likes of which will actually win the energy war, no problem, along with infinite geothermal, solar, and tidal forces.

Seeing so many of them, hundreds making amazing patterns when you line them up, made me really proud to be Albertan. And they cover the America, as skeletal dust used to blast dynamite trails through mountains in the railroad days. It there's one thing we humans do it's mine and profit. Put more nobly, we survive.

But hey I'm doing the same thing right now, sitting in the morning sun with a blanket over me so the laptop screen doesn't just reflect mountains. Doing so, I've become a magnet for a buck and packs of curious ground.

"WHAT WAS THAT?" SHE ASKS. "A COOKIE MONSTER?" I JOKE—BUT I HAVE, YOU KNOW KIND OF A BAD FEELING, IN THE ABOUT-TO-BE-EATEN SENSE OF THE PHRASE. I MAKE A FAINTHEARTED GROWL, IMMEDIATELY THINKING "IDIOT."

southern Alberta. Less trees, more hills, one shitty starship Enterprise—but most importantly, just hundreds of office-tower-sized windmills. We walked through a farmer's field so I could lay my hands on one. • holy moment, the giant blades whizzing above as I fantasized about them shaking loose and ripping black scars

landscape near Head-Smashed-In Buffalo lump, where more than a little contradicts the idea that Indians "used every part" of an animal as they drove entire packs of bison to their terrified deaths off panoramic cliffs. That took Whitey, where even graveyards like these were generally stripped of their bones across North squirrels, who I must say especially love my nuts. And there's no irony to the fact that throwing them cashews and pecans and peanuts last night while drunk at least symbolically led to our sniffer bear.

But fuck it. I just wanted to give something back, you know?

50 BUCK · BY ANDREW PAUL | 621 WORDS

### The Most Ghetto Wedding Gift Ever

THIS WEEK'S 50 BUCKER
FRANTICALLY SLAPS
TOGETHER A BOX OF TIDBITS
FOR HIS MARRYING FRIENDS

It's nearly midnight. I have 50 bucks in my pocket, a mission, and a dilemma.

My friends are getting married on the weekend and I need to find the perfect wedding gift to see them off into the happy realm of marital bliss. The dilemma: I find myself trapped in the west end ghetto of Stony Plain Road between 149 and 163 Streets.

Don't bother asking how I wound up in this predicament because that, dear reader, is a secret I will take to my grave. However, I will tell you what a person can buy on this nasty stretch of road that will make the perfect wedding present for old friends tying the knot.

II:56 p.m.: Wee Book Inn
It seems sensible to avoid purchasing stereotypical wedding gifts like crock pots and blenders. Instead, I will focus on what everyone believes to be the best part of narriage: the honeymoon. The soon-to-be newlyweds will nng in their new legal status with a week of hedonistic Central American excess. Unfortunately they face 14 hours of flight time during the trip.

To help kill the boredom, I purchase two novels: Before He Wakes by Jer-

ry Bledsoe for the bride and Norman Mailer's An American Dream for the groom. Cost: \$7.35.

12:14 a.m.: XXX Centrefold

The only businesses open in this neighbourhood after midnight are porn shops and seedy pubs. The pubs are useless to me right now, but I

the sex store to make sure their marital sex life gets off on the right foot. I settle on a tongue-shaped vibrator called the "Tongue Teaser" for the beautiful bride. Unfortunately, my budget won't allow the purchase of another toy for the groom. Luckily there is still reasonably affordable visual stimulation, and nothing screams "matrimonial monogamy" like a random pick from the VHS

bargain bin. Desperate times call for desperate measures. Cost: \$36.65

12:22 a.m.: 7/11

This is the only place left open on the street that isn't a bar or a masturbatorium. I have \$6 remaining in my budget, and

so far I have all my bases covered. I have literature for the plane ride, and marital aids for the hotel room. All that's left is safety. Condoms are too expensive (and they won't need them once they're married anyway.

right?) so I bought a container of old-school Vaseline and 100 mL of no-name-brand antiseptic. You can never be too careful. I also must warn you, dear reader, that it

chasing skin grease and disinfectant. Those two items together can only mean about six different things, and for middle-aged Asian night clerks none of them are good Cost: \$4.81

12:41 a.m.:

Vascallian

### Giant Tiger parking lot

As I walk past the empty parking lot at 150 St and Stony Plain Road, I decide to spend the remaining money on a charitable donation. I approach a bum in a torn windbreaker and say, "Here. My friends are sex fiends, but they're good people and they want you to have this." Cost: \$119

There's a part of me that thinks that what I've accumulated might make a better stag gift, but there's no time to debate that right now. Sometimes you just have to get down to business. I only hope this provokes some dirty business in Mexico next week. I'll have to remind them that this won't be allowed as a carryon piece of luggage. Pre-boarding screening officers have a terrible fear of commitment.

Wanna try it?
Send your idea for 50Buck to
stories@see.greatwest.ca.



MBIBING · ZINFANDEL · BY MELISSA PRIESTLEY (742 words

### A Schizophrenic Gypsy Grape

DESPITE THE UBIQUITY OF THAT SWEET, PINKISH PLONK, REAL ZINFANDEL IS RED—AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT

Zinfandel is a grape with multiple personalities. Not only is it the same as Italy's Primitivo, it also finds another expression in the form of White Zinfandel, that mass-marketed blush wine I watched my mom and her friends drink with giddy abandon in my early childhood

Zinfandel was planted in the U.S. in the early 1800s and steadily grew in popularity; it was deemed "California's claret" at the turn of the century. It continued to be favoured but, like many a Hollywood celebrity, its very popularity became its undoing.

The demand for Zinfandel reached such high levels that unscrupulous winemakers started churning out thousands of gallons of poorly made plonk. Then White Zinfandel hit the market (Note: while "true" Zinfandel is red and couldn't be more different from its pale, adulterated cousin, most casual drinkers conflate them in their minds.)

Infandels out there, so don't despair if you've had bad experiences with one of its crappier incarnations. Californian Zin is distinguishable by its heavyweight frame, as a result, it doesn't require much aging, and most Zins are best within four to eight years of being made.

The best Zinfandels are made

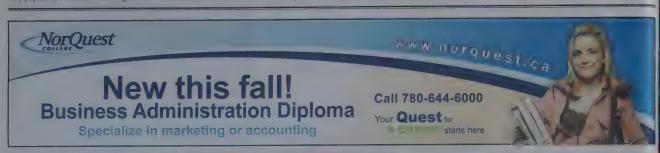
from vines grown in slightly cooler conditions, as too-hot climates produce syrupy, one-dimensional fruit-bombs. Zin grapes have naturally high sugar levels, which translates to higher alcohol content in the finished wine—typically more than 14 per cent, and often reaching 17 per cent. Cooler growing conditions give the wines more structure, balancing acidity with interesting secondary flavours. I often get cocca/chocolate, firewood, pepper, and/or caramel nuances from the good ones.

Look for Zins from California's Russian River Valley and Lodi regions. Sonoma also makes a ton of Zinfandel in m wide range of styles; I particularly like the juicy ones from the Dry Creek Valley. Amador and

Napa also make good ones, though they tend to lean towards that full-

Zinfandel's Italian alter ego, Primitivo, is usually grown in the Puglia region (the heel of Italy's boot). Primitivo was thought to be its own unique variety until the 1990s, when DNA profiling revealed that it was one and the same as California's baby Zin. This prompted further genetic research, and in 2004 researchers discovered that the Croatian variety Crljenak Kaštelanski, an almost extinct variety grown on the island of Kaštela, is genetically identical to Zin and is therefore its progenitor. (It also wins the honour of being the most unpronounceable grape name I've yet encountered.)

Unfortunately, there is far too much cheesy wordplay with "Zin"just because you can make easy rhymes and puns doesn't mean you should. Such ridiculous titles include: Seven Deadly Zins, Cardinal Zin, Earth Zin and Fire, Sin Zin, Zen of Zin... I've even heard someone say 'zynonymous." Another label phenomenon is the "Old Vine" designa tion. Use of the phrase "old vine" is not regulated, so anyone can put it on their bottle. And while there are a few pockets of very old, pre-Prohibition Zinfandel vines hanging around. there are not enough to cover all the bottles bearing these words. You can be fairly certain that a \$10 bottle of Zin isn't going to be made from vines planted in the 1880s.





### The Best Part Was The Bread

AN UNSAVOURY SCENE OUTSIDE SPOILS AN ALTOGETHER MEDIOCRE DINNER AT THAT'S AROMA!

THAT'S AROMA! GARLIC RESTAURANT 11010-101 St., 425-7335

Sorry, That's Aromal, I have to call it a wash. I admit that my less-than-stellar recollection of my meal has much to do with circumstances beyond the restaurant's control. By the same token, first impressions count for a lot.

That's Aroma! is a branch of the Sorrentino's family of restaurants ostensibly dedicated to foodstuffs for garlic lovers, and is much nicer inside than its immediate surroundings would suggest. On the night of my visit with my co-diner, a handful of committed outdoor drinkers were hanging by the entrance, pounding back a bottle of Harvey's Bristol Cream while one of their number took a nap in m nearby planter. Inside, though, the restaurant was welllit by a wall of windows and decked out in the manner of mid-market Italian bistro in Edmonton-harvestgold, tastefully ersatz artwork, well-

Traffic was light that night, so we were seated and served promptly, but it took a while for us to choose between the regular menu and a special summer menu they'd just started that day. I settled on satay chicken (\$20), opting for side pasta over fries, while my co-diner decided to sample the seasonal bill of fare, requesting that the rigatoni that came with scallops and prawns in rose cream sauce (\$20) be replaced with fettucine. Right after we placed our order, our server provided a miniloaf and a bulb of roasted garlic-the out of their skins and spread on the bread, a welcome start to the meal.

At this point, a little drama began to unfold outside. Two security guards in mirror shades (despite the rain) and black leather gloves pulled the itinerant gentleman out of the planter by That's Aroma!'s big front windows and frog-marched him across the street, dropping him like a sack of garbage on the wet sidewalk across the street and throwing his personal effects after him.

A passerby carrying a case of TNT ber stopped to remind these two guardians of public property that this unsentient heap of dirty clothes and matted hair was a human being, or so I inferred from the distance at which I viewed the spectacle. The security guards turned and stalked off, leaving the passerby and several concerned citizens at an adjacent bus stop to look on in disgust. And the next time I looked, the undissuaded drinkers had resumed drink-

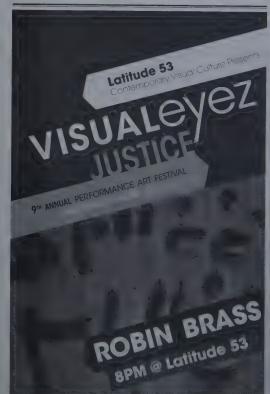
ing outside That's Aroma!'s front door, popping across the street to check on their inert comrade. It was hardly shocking, but the scene didn't do much for my appetite.

We'd ordered a grilled mushroom salad in Thai vinaigrette (\$11) to start, that was acceptable but not as thoughtfully assembled as the description on the menu suggested. It was a colourful green salad with carrots, red cabbage, and lots of red onion in a soy-based dressing with a strewing of glossy button mushrooms that had been fleetingly grill-marked but seemed otherwise uncooked. Somehow the elements of the salad hadn't coalesced into an interesting eating experience, and the price tag didn't seem entirely justified

Our mains came quickly after the salad. My co-diner was pleased with the richness and abundance of her dish, it huge buttery-pink bowl of pasta tossed with cream sauce and large specimens of the eponymous seafood. My entrée was more problematic. On one side of the plate were two halves of seared chicken breast coated with chili-flecked peamut sauce. On the other side was a heap of penne tossed in tomato

sauce. That was it The combination seemed so arbitrary that I wasn't even sure I wanted the two foods touching since their flavours and textures seemed less than complementary. The chicken breast was a little overdone, but the coconut milklaced peanut sauce was tasty enough. It just seemed weird to chase it with a bite of pasta shellacked with tomato sauce, and my palate got tired of the lack of variety in each forkful. Pasta tossed in oil and garlic would have at least given me something to sop up the peanut sauce with, and a few steamed vegetables wouldn't think it was too much to expect for 20 bucks. When our server asked us hoped for foods that went together a little better. He smiled, shrugged, and went to fetch our bill-what else could he do at that point?

With wine, the meal went over \$70 and was memorable mostly for the unsavoury street scene that was still unfolding when we left. A dedicated food reviewer would go back to take another swing, but I'm not sure an unsubsidized paying customer would have returned based on the same experience.



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# 15 minutes

Darren Vanderheide | The Fat Frank's Guy On Rice Howard Way

O&As WITH EDMONTONIANS ANDREW PAUL

### How did you get into the hotdog business?

This is my fourth year in Fat Franks, and my first year as an owner operator. The gentleman on Rice Howard Way retired and offered me his business, so I purchased it off of him. I was a bartender at the Westin Hotel, (he) approached me and said bartenders and servers are very good at multitasking, and it's in very multitasking job working a hot-dog stand, so I thought I'd give it a try and I haven't looked back since, and I hope I never look back.

### When was the first time you tried a hotdog?

Oh, probably in my early childhood, like everyone else.

#### What makes hotdogs so great?

Hot dogs stern from youth and childhood: birthday parties and being outside having fun and enjoying life, it's a fun product to eat

#### What are the most popular condiments?

My stand offers a very wide array of choices. Sauerkraut, onions and relish seem to be the most popular for the condiments, and of course ketchup and mustard.

### What are some of the more bizarre topping combinations you've seen?

Everything hot: hot mustard, hot ketchup, jalapenos, banana peppers, hot sauce—and it just gets pretty hot.

### Do you offer products for our vegetarian friends out there?

We have veggie hotdogs made out of soy based product, and of course all of the condiments that go with it are all vegetarian, including the bacon bits that I carry, which are just simulated.

#### Who buys hotdogs from you?

Well, I did see David Beckham when he came through. He didn't stop, but he smiled at me I get a full array of clientele from the street people all the way up to the millionaire's club. It doesn't matter who they are: everyone loves hotdogs.

#### How long is the hotdog season?

Generally we start in April, and hopefully, weather permitting we go into October or November, but the last few years that hasn't been the case. This year also has not been so nice to us in the early spring part, and kind of cut our season short.

### What is the most difficult part of your lob?

Cleaning and morning preparation, before we head out and the amount of cleaning that is taken underway after our day of sales. There's close to an hour and a half to two hours of cleaning a day. Of course cleaniness is the most important aspect of our job. making sure everything is safe and clean.



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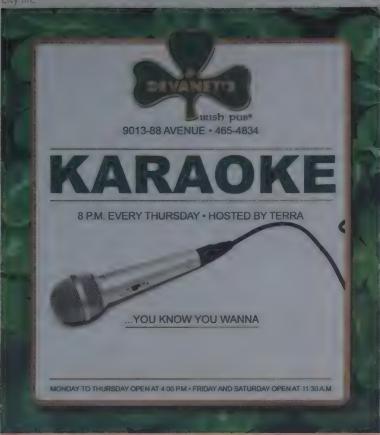
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## myLook

Michelle Schultz | Art History Student BY MICHAEL TRAVERS

Where: Latitude 53 rooftop patio

My Look: Monochromatic—my entire wardrobe consists of black, white, and various shades of grey.

Hair: It hasn't been cut in a very, very long time. It's very hands-off, it does its own thing.

Wearing: The top is from American Apparel, the shorts are from Aritzia. My belt is vintage. The

shoes are from Top Shop in London, and the jewelly is from various travels; my necklace is from Florence, my rings are from Maul and Mexico Into: I like sitting on patios, particularly at galleries on a beautiful sunny day, [Laughs, ] I'm into

art, books, film... I'm studying contemporary art at the U of A.

### **EVENTS**

PARK. Info at www.capita' .ex.ca.
TASTE OF EDMONT? UN JULY 18-27 SIR WINSTON
THURCHILL SQUARE Tickets at Tix On The Square.
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UE POLD JULY 23-27, HAWRELAK PARK Teams from many as thirty countries from around the world come to emonton to compete in the World Canoe Polo Champion-ships.

2008 VISUALEYEZ JULY 18-JULY 27 A festival of performance art, various locations. Info at: www.latitude53.org/visualeyez.

SUMMER ROOFTOP PATIO SERIES EVERY THU UNTIL AUG 14, 4:30 PM-9 PM. LATITUDE 53 GALLERY ROOFTOP Munchies and drinks, DIs, and lots of fun people. Info: www. latititude53.org.

SASQUATCH GATHERING JULY 25-27, EASYFORD, AB. Tickets and info at www.brassmonkeyproductions.com/sasq.

### MEETINGS

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100n-Xurr OF CANADIANS MAY 21, 7 PM. GRANDIN GREEN 10-0P BUIL 10 ING, 9708-110 ST. Annual General meeting, Sand Curry from the Canadian Peace Congress will speak to this experient spreas at the International Peace Conference in Venezuela. In 10-429-4500. EDMONTON NATURE CLUB MONTHLY MEETINGS, ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12845-102 AVE. A Informative monthly meetings with guest speakers. Info: Mark, 430-7134 or meetings filterly solanet net

FORWARD THINKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB TUE. 7 PM. STRATHCONA COUNTY BUILDING, 2001 SHERWOOD DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK. Build seti-confidence and communications skills Info: 922-3835.

FRENCH CONVERSATION THU, ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE, #202, 8627 RUE MARIE-ANNE GABOURY. Info: Godfrey, 469-0399.

HIP MAMAS MEET-UP Young mothers and their babies meet several times a week. Free III join, plenty III friends III be made. Info: hipmama.meetup.com/151/.
ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB 2ND THU EVERY MONTH. 8

M. WOODY'S, 2ND FL., 1773 JASPER AVE. Cross-dressers, transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or groups yahoo.com/group/edmonton. Illusions.

IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB XND AND GTH THU EV-ERY MONTH, 8 PM. SEP—MMY, PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL J0860—574VE. Presentations, speakers, workshops, outings, monthly and year-end competitions. Photographic enthusiasts of all levels welcome. Info: www.imagesab.com or Shella, 469–970s, Murfty, 425–6224.

IMNOVATORS' NETWORKING CLUB TUE. 11:30 AM-1 PM. CAFÉ SELECT SOUTH, 109 ST. & 84 AVE. Business networking group, mixer, and club membership drive. Info: Dwayne, 463-6240 or dwaynebh@bhaken.ca.

MKP MENS GROUP EVERY MON, 7 PM. Men's meeting. Info: www.mkp.org or Garrett, 452-5107.

N'ORATORS TOASTMASTERS (LUB WED, 7-8:45PM. LONDONDERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY, LONDONDERRY MALL, 137 AVE. 8-66 ST. Learn to speak clearly and with confidence in a supportive group. Info: www.norators.com.

NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CLUB THU, 8-10 PM. 10425 KINGSWAY AVE. Improve public speaking and communications skills in a fun and educational environment. Info: 465-3034 on when popular disasterations.

POWER SPEAKERS TO AST MASTERS CLUB WED 7-9 PM.
GRANT MACEWAN COLLEGE CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, RM 437
Learn to speak with confidence in a supportive environment.
Info: 732-0693 or www.powerspeakers.ca.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES Weekly drop-in meetings, providing sources and information on self-esteem, mental health, and employment. Men welcome to attend. Info 496-5930

TOURETTE SYNDROME SUPPORT IST WED EVERY MONTH (OCT-JUNE), 7 PM. ACADEMY OF KING EDWARD, 8525-101 ST., NORTH DOOR. Meeting for TS adults and pagents of TS kirls. Info: 1-866-874-4764

parents of TS kids. Info: 1-866-824-9764.

UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS CLUB WED, 7-8:30

PAL RM 601 NORQUEST COLLEGE. 10275-108 ST. Improve listening, speaking, and overall communication skills. Info. Roger 454-970. Theress 468 4-0996 or adminsfelters. Inc. WEST-END TOASTMASTER CUIB TUE. 6:45-PAL MSDER PLACE LIBRARY. 9010-165 ST. Friendly environment of personal progress and mitual support. Info. 495-542. WOW-WIRED ON WOODS SUIT. In AM-15-PM THEE! RAMMAS CASE THERE WIS STANDERS In GREATER CREATER.

writers. Suggested donation \$10. Monthly meetings: Info: bewell 2008@gmail.com.

YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE 2ND FRI EVERY MONTH, 
5 PM. REMEDY CAFE, 8631-109 ST. For discussion topics 
and suggested readings go to www facebook.com/group.

writing group welcoming both professional and amateur

### HEALTH & WELLNESS

CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE 11205-1015T.
479-1999 A range of services for members of the Native community, including a free community funch friedays III noon, employment and Public Health information, counseling referrals and one-on-one support, AADAC & Legal Auf referrals, low orst III free beds, housing and clothing referrals. Info. 479-1999.

CLUB LULU LULULEMON, 10544-82 AVE. Weekly activities to get you moving. Info-www.lululemon.com, 435-9363 or whyte-community@lululemon.com

COMMUNITY WEIGHT-LOSS CHALLENGE VARIOUS LOCATIONS 6-week course on dieting and active lifestyles. Info. Carla, 966-0185.

CONSTELLATION EVERY IST & 3RD WED, 7PM. 10431-37 AVE. A unique healing process, transforming past burdens into positive affirmations. Info: 967-9162 iii constellationcurrents.ca.

FREE YOGA CLASS EYERY SUN, 6-7 PM. LULULEMON ATHLETICA KINGSWAY IIII levels welcome, new styles each week, mats provided. Info. 471-1200 or kingswaygardencommunity@lululemon.com.

GENTLE YOGA RADHA YOGA 9946-87 AVE. Weekly classes in small group settings. Sunday Satisang (by donation). Call for schedule and files info : 482-385 on vew radhan significant schedule and files info : 482-385 on vew radhan significant schedule and files info : 482-385 on vew radhan significant schedule info : 482-485 on vew radhan significant schedule : 482-485 on vew radhan schedule : 482-485 on vew radhan significant schedule : 482-485 on vew radhan schedule

ciplinary yoga studio offering drop-in and registered classes in hatha, vinyasa flow. Pilates, yoga for runners, pre-natal, post-natal, mommy 8 me, and partner workshops. All levels welcome Info. www.iotussoulgym.com, 434-9642 m info@ letterscoulemence.

MADE LEINE SANAM FOUNDATION 18/0 A 3/11 SATE VERY MOVTH 9 AM-5 PM FACULTE SAINT-IEAN 80/06-91 ST. RM 3-16. An opparazabon lim the emancipation and autonomy of African women, providing programs on exonomy, community health training on HIV-AID prevention, treatment, and harm reduction. French English and African Insensees, Authorison free for member, membership is IIII.

MEDITATION AND BUDDHIST TEACHINGS GADEN SAMTEN LING TIBETAN BUDDHIST MEDITATION SOCIETY, 1100-1101 ST. Meditation and Buddhist teachings by resident teacher, Tibetan Buddhist monk Kushok Lubsan Shamchoe Beginners Fue 7 pm Intermediate Wed 7 pm Advanced practices Sun 11 am. Info. 479-0014 or www.

MS ACTIVE NOW #150 9405-50 ST. Recreation and physical wellness programs. Info. 471-3034.

RADHA YOGA VARIOUS LOCATIONS Classes include gentle hatha, hidden language/reflective hatha, dream yoga, kundalinii/power III choice and meditation. Info: 432-3363, class dates at www.radha.ore/edimonton.

RAJA YOGA MEDITATION #208. ID132-105 ST III association with Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization. Info: www.bkwsu.org.or. 425-1050.

RESTORATIVE YOGA MON-THU ET APPOINTMENT.

10355-105 ST. Learn restorative: vinysa yoga, and pilates for individuals and small groups. Eight class card pass for \$64. Info. 478-3713

RIVER VALLEY RUNNERS TUE 8 THU, 5.15-6:45 PM. RIVERDALE COMMUNITY HALL, 9231-100 AVE. Coached train includes warm up and cooldown. Info: www.rivervalleytrails, includes warm up and cooldown. Info: www.rivervalleytrunners.net or 447-1909.

SOUL POWER MAY 31, 10 AM & JUNE 1, 1 PM. UNITY CHURCH OF EDMONTON. 13210-106 AVE. Workshop for soul healing techniques presented by Or. Zhi Gang Sha. Info: Yvonne, 913-6460.

TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY THU, 6:30-7:30 PM. ALLENDALE COMMUNITY LEAGUE, 6:330-105A ST. Weight loss support and information. First meeting is free. Info. TOPS4990@hotmail.com.

TRANQUILITY MEDITATION & BUDDHIST PRACTICE WED, 7PM. 19502-70 AVE. Tibetan kagyu tradition. Free beginners welcome, instruction available. Info: Lama Ani Kunsang, resident teacher, 633-6157 or www.karmatashiling

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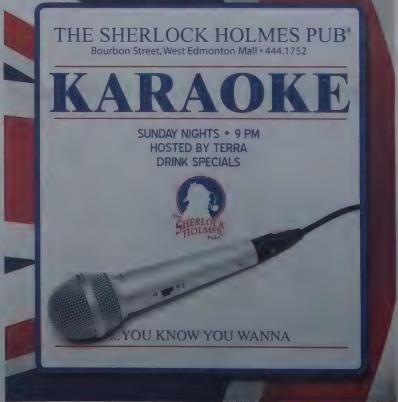
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CROSSTALK - MUSIC MARKETING - BY RENATO PAGNANI & FAWNDA MITHRUSHI 855 worth

### They Would Walk 500 Miles



Where's Reznor? I Fans and media alike have stayed at the bork and call of Detroe's market, smart can't and shuntry Quo'm by one succional

TRENT REZNOR IS BETTER
THAN ANYONE AT REEPING HIS
"TRUE FANS" ON THEIR TOES...
BUT IS HE ONLY EXPLOITING
THEIR LOYALTY?

#### NINE INCHINALIS

w/ Crystal Castles & guests. July 28 (8pm). Rexall Place. Tickets available through Ticketmaster (481-8000/ Neketmaster ca)

Every band has its fans, but the fans of "alternative" arena-packing groups like Tool, Radiohead, or Nine Inch Nails are different. And it's not just the way they insist that even though the concerts take place at gigantic A-list venues with \$80 ticket tags, they'll argue to the death that their favourite bands aren't at all

No ma'es telling about their will

ingness to travel to another province (or another state) to see the band play, even though they've seen them live twice before. These are the fans who drop major dough on special edition box sets when they already own every single hard copy the band has a war selected.

These, in short, are True Fans.

And apparently all anyone needs is 1,000 of these "true" peeps to sustain a viable art or music career. At least, that's if you believe Kevin Kelly, editor of Wired mag and active blogger (www.kk.org/thetechnium). he's gained a lot of attention in music circles lately for his thesis that "1,000 True Fans" can keep an artist making money until the end of time. Even if they release mediocre album after sub-mediocre album. Even if they go to rehab—

twice. Even if they're bitchier than

Enter Trent Reznor—more often known as the brain behind Nine Inch Nails. In light of Reznor's Tuesday visit, SEE music editor Fawnda Mithrush and music writer Renato Pagnani decided to chat about his uncanny ability to keep his fans chomping at the bit, and debate whether he's really giving love back to his true fans or just indulging in empty marketing sunts.

Fawnda Mithrush: With the changes the music industry has undergone in the last decade, it's more important than ever to generate excitement among your farbase. Dropping your label and releasing your music free online is one thing, but keep-

Reznor's most recent stunt found NINheads combing the streets and drainpipes of L.A. in search of concert tickets: one minute coordinates for the treasure hunt were posted on the NIN website, the next The Loyal were scrambling around L.A. like undercover agents in an MTV version of 24. Now there's how to keep people interested—not to mention make sure they're subscribing to RSS feeds from his site.

Renato Pagnani: Yeah, and that stunt with the free tickets is not the first one Reznor's staged, either. Over the last two years, perhaps no other musician has used viral marketing more effectively. Before Year Zero was released last year, he commissioned dozens of fictional websites designed to plunge fans into his Orwellian portrayal of the United States circa the year 2022. Hell, 'way cooler than Lost." I don't think simply keeping fans interested is where Reznor's genius lies-after all, the viral marketing is essentially just spectacle. Making fans feel like they are involved is more powerful, and

FM: Well, I think they do get a sense of involvement, but I don't know how genuine it is. Reznor's really more like a puppetmaster when he sends his fans on treasure hunts for USB keys in washrooms at his gigs—the method he chose to intentionally "leak" Year Zero. It's like the best marketing strategy ever: make people feel like there's some secret club they're getting access to because they're "loyal." I mean, you didn't have to hit his site 20 times to be able to download The Slip; anyone could just so and get it

RP: You're right, but for those diehard fans, they can go the extra length and really delve into the mythol 're Reznor is building around each. lease. In that way, the loyal fans arsort of rewarded for their devotion to NIN, while the casual fans still have easy access to the music, which is really all they care about. And Reznor doesn't waste his fans' time; the work on these websites is just breathtaking—it's clearly a labour of love for everyone involved, and I think the fans respect and appreciate that.

FM: Granted, the NIN artwork is intriguing, but tattoos of any highconcept album artwork aren't un common anymore. If I had a nicked for every guy I've seen with a Las eralus eye inked on him... Well, the another band, and another crossta entirely. The point is, these bands aren't just releasing albums; they're releasing m hard-copy body of art as a package. Which is a very, ver 40 in the free download age. When started his public war with wrote, "For being a 'true fan' you ripped off"), he stood up for the guys. His little guys. And the guys supported him in turn by she ing out for his pretty albums. A the media attention he was get

RP: Your point about relations or tant body of art as a package is implemented by the second of the

Meshell + Ani = Sunday & Monday With Rockin' Ladies | Who says boys mck more? They have a tendency to lose their

### **HOT TICKETS · MUST-SEE SHOWS**

### Ani DiFranco

Winspear Centre - July 28 \$21-\$42 | Winspear Box Office

She's baaack. And just in time to skip out on Folk Fest too. Whether you're more familiar with her shaved head or dreadlocked look, there's no denying Ani hasn't left an impression on you at some point in her near 20-year career—especially considering she's one of the most prolific folk singers of our age (and no, not "just" a female one either), and we E-towners being the Folk lowin' kind... you get the drift. Her favourite words are 'f' words, she explained in an MTV interview: two of them are if femiliary and folk marks.

### DREAMING OF DWIGHT The Jolts

New City Suburbs - July 25 \$10 | At the door

Here's The Jolts origin story, as told by bassist Lector Kurrentz to Exclaim!: "Before we knew each other, we all had the same vivid dream of meeting a man down near the old ship-yards in False Creek. His name was Dwight Lightning and he was dressed in black denim. He instructed each of us to wait until the next thunderstorm and return to the same spot in order to join forces and create the most electrifying rock band the city would ever know." That city was Vancouver. See how they stand up to our town's Let's Dance and Old Vives.

#### DAMN HIPPIES

### Sasquatch Gathering

Easyford, AB - July 25-27 \$50 | Blackbyrd Myoozik OK, we've seen our fair st

OK, we've seen our fair share of hippie fests over the past weeks. It's a regular friggli, Summer Of Love over here. And this year<sup>2</sup> Sasquatch celebrates it's Lucky 13 Anni; se. The versary complete with bellydance troupes is from hula hoopers, folky singers, dancey DJs, and a whole lotta rustic scenery, plus an über minte hippie potluck on Saturday night—oh yes, the patchouli will be flying (we hear it's a natural insect deterrent, so there is a point to the sweaty musk after all!). Don't forget to check



Peter Travers-Rolling Stone



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COLUMBIA PICTURES



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### History and Hospitality, on tap



MUSIC PREVIEW · MEXI-ROCK · BY RENATO PAGNANI | 588 words

### Rock En Español



Don't Let Their Scary Masks Fool You | Los Straitjackets are un cuddly un a surf-rock band can be. SUPPLI

NONE OF LOS STRAITJACKETS IS MEXICAN, BUT WE BET THEY'LL BE SERVING TACOS AT THEIR SHOWS ANY TIME NOW

LOS STRAIGHTJACKETS

w/ Big Sandy. The Igniters. July 24 (8pm). The Pawn Shop (10551-82 Ave. upstairs). Tickets: \$20, available at the door III through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca)

Wearing costumes onstage is not a new phenomenon in music. From the demonic pseudo-drag of KISS to Gnarls Barkley's airline uniforms and Austin Powers-wear, donning digs other than your own is a surefire way to separate yourself from your music and build a spectacle. But for Nashville's Los Straitjackets, their onstage costumes are simply an expression of their love of lucha libre wrestling.

"I was at this lucha libre match 20 years ago," says guitarist Danny Amis, "and there was someone selling the masks for about four bucks each, and I ended up buying a whole bag of them. A year later when we were trying to figure out a good way to present the band onstage, someone found the bag of masks just sitting in a corner of my house and that was that."

Their colourful masks might be the bait, but their surf-influenced music is the hook. The instrumental rock group has developed a cult following since their first album, The Utterly Fantastic and Totally Unbelievable Sound of Los Straitjackets, was released 13 years ago. Last year, the group took a musical detour and released Rock en Español, an album of Mexican roll 'n' roll songs, which

were themselves covers of American rock tunes

Having previously recorded two of these tracks with rockabilly vocalist Big Sandy, the group felt like an entire album of covers was long overdue. Although none of the members of Los Straitjackets is Mexican, they grew up listening to these songs and felt there was something about them worth sharing-even to listeners who don't understand Spanish. "When you don't know the language," Amis explains, "you take the words out of the song and you concentrate more on the melody and the vocal styling. These songs are beautiful on their own, separated from their mean-

Not that the songs mean much, especially when English equivalents of some of the phrases just don't exist. "Some of these versions have absolutely nothing to do with the originals," Amis says. "For instance, 'Dizzy Miss Lizzie,' which was a hit for Los Apson in Mexico, was translated into 'El Microscopico Bikini,' about a girl in a microscopic bikini, 'Good Golly Miss Molly' became 'La Plaga,' which is literally 'The Plague,' about a dancing fever that has come over everyone. Miss Molly is nowhere to be found."

A few of the songs from the album, plus others from Los Straitjackets' back catalogue, will be featured in the upcoming animated film Los Campeones de la Lucha Libre, from the creators of the Cartoon Network series ¡Mucha Lucha! Contributing to the film—about a group of lucha libre wrestlers who moonlight as superheroes—was a no-brainer for the band. "When they called us over the phone," Amis says, "we were really just waiting for them to stop talking and give us a chance to say yes. I can't think of a more perfect fit for the band's music."



ROAD STORIES . BASS ISSUES | 466 words

### Double-Check The Bassist's Case



EAR TO THE ASPHALT ANN VRIEND **EVEN A BASS VIRTUOSO LIKE** ME'SHELL NDEGEOCELLO OCCASIONALLY ENCOUNTERS BASS PROBLEMS

Me'Shell Ndegeocello is a bassist extraordinaire, a rapper, a singer/ artists like Prince, John Cougar Mellencamp. The Rolling Stones, and Alanis Morrisette, and appeared in the hit documentary Standing in the Shadows of Motown. So you'd think that at this point, Ndegeocello would be above having to deal with, say, travel inconveniences. Not so. In fact, I had a hard time getting her to narrow things down to only one travel gong show.

"There was the one time the road manager booked two hotel rooms over 20 dates and we all had to live on the bus," she begins. "Or when we played in Spain and I brought my adolescent son and when we showed up for soundcheck we found ourselves on a nude beach. Or when the bass player had to open his bass case at customs and there was weed all over his bass....

The list went on. Eventually I got Ndegeocello to elaborate on her favourite road story..

"I guess you could tell the story about when my bass player lost his passport the night before a European tour. We looked everywhere and called everybody and emptied all his shit out 10 times. When we showed up at the airport the next day, he came with all his stuff and had burst a blood vessel in his eye from the stress. He thought I would kill him."

Oh, I've met many a disorganized musician, and I can definitely picture the scenario. Ndegeocello's cool stare would be the last thing a frazzled bass player would want to encounter, especially considering her own bass-playing virtuosity. Add to that the knee-knocking fear of a no-nonsense boss like Ndegecello, and I'm kind of surprised the story wasn't about the time her band slaughtered their bassist.

Ndegeocello continues the tale. We left him there to get a passport in 24 hours and meet us on the road, but we still had to play for 1,500 people in Paris the next night without him. I have a hard time playing and singing, so everyone who could

learned the bass parts. I played bass

board player played bass lines. It was

a great show, actually, and a feel-

Ndegecello savors the accomplish-

ment for a few seconds, then adds:

"I was still happy as hell when [the

bassist's] ass showed up in Dublin,

though. We drank a lot of Guinness

to celebrate the reunion." There is

hardly a finer moment than when

a band reunites. But the moment

"I better tell him to check the date

Hopefully the expiry date on her

bassist's passport is alright, as Nde-

geocello-full band in tow- is sched-

uled to play The Starlite Room on

on that thing, come to think of it,"

quickly turns serious again.

she thinks aloud.

good band moment."

MUSIC PREVIEW - VOICE NOODLING - BY PROSPER PRODANIUK | 535 words

### Cohen On The Other Side



**CLINKER STRETCHES** LEONARD COHEN'S VOICE LIKE NO ONE'S EVER STRETCHED IT BEFORE

ON THE OTHER SIDE...

July 25 (10:30pm) & July 27 (3pm & 5pm). Rice Theatre (The Citadel). Tickets: \$15, available through the Citadel box office (425-1870)

Many works at this week's International Leonard Cohen Festival will focus on the lyrics-the poetry-of the Canadian literary icon. But a new performance piece zeroes in on what every Canadian, fan or not, identifies with Cohen: that voice.

"It just sounds like he's smoked way too many cigarettes and drank way too much whiskey over his 60 years," says Gary Joynes, who performs under the musical alias Clinker For the past six years, Joynes has been taking his slow-moving sound-and-lightscapes to festivals

shifts and sonic glitches, Joynes Joynes says, "and wrap it with my style and synthesis. I looked for the lowest frequencies coming out. more than anyone should timestretch anything-and when you do that, you start to get digital artifacts. which I, of course, embrace."

Joynes lifted the title of his piece On the Other Side... from a line of poetry in Cohen's The Book of Longing. "I wanted to approach Cohen from the sacred and mystic side," he says, "which is a big part of him. Buddhism is a big part of his life, and when I broke down his work you can see that he did a lot of describing light versus dark.... It's a very slow-moving piece, a meditation. I see my piece as maybe being some

of the mantras he's using when he's

40-minute opus as well. I pay homsays, "where he took the sound of of his poems with a reversed record-

sure that the human impact of Cohen be looping." he says "There's repemake it sound human.

On the Other Side... will be the centrepiece of Clinker's perforthat will bookend the show

audience not to completely alienate them into a world of minimalism that they may not have experienced before," he explains. "I'll be performing three of my favorite Cohen songs ["Hallelujah," "Sisters of Mercy," and "Suzanne"| with my friend Les Robot. He is, in my opinion, one of the best guitarists in the world. He's from here, I've known him for years. He asked me once to describe 'post-future blues.' So that's what we'll be playing. I can guarantee that





### **CD REVIEWS**



#### THE FAMINES

The Black Sea

Although they've been playing together since late 2006, the mysterious Famines have managed to keep a profile lower than Kurt and Tupac, all but faking

their own deaths in order to stay out of the public eye. But the top-secret two-piece burst from the stable last week, playing their first show, releasing an ambitious double 7", and hitting the road for a tour of western Canada.

The Black Sea spatters minimalist noise with 1960s punk and garage, and the result is a Nuggets-meets-Warhol-movie impasto smeared real thick across two slabs of black vinyl. It almost seems as though the songwriting were done in reverse, with drummer Garrett Kruger's frenzied beats at the forefront, accented by guitar player/ singer-man Raymond Biesinger's choppy chords and single-note solos. Accompanying the record package is a 26-page book (no staples here, that shit is

bound) of illustrations by Biesinger, an Art Chantry-style mix of typography and topography in glorious black and white.

Reluctant is planning to release an eight-track edition of the EP, news which I'm sure is tightening the trousers of record-collecting virgins and shitty car owners alike.

N.E.R.D. Seeing Sounds (Interscope)



Seeing Sounds is a mess. I know that's the point: after all, it's an album about the neurological phenomenon known as synaesthesia (in which the wrong organ in a good way-like, say, Lit Wayne's recent Tha Carter III. The third N.E.R.D. album from Pharrell and Chad Hugo (aka The Neptunes) and that other guy (Shay Haley) shoots for the There are a handful of the unique fusion of hip-hop Of... such a wonderful surprise six years ago, Take for instance, which rides a thick-as-molasses bassline. mode, weaving in and out with some sharp melodies. But for the first time, the album are the slow

And that just ain't right.

### THE HOLD STEADY

Stay Positive (Vagrant)



I'm sure plenty of kids in small Midwestern towns die in car accidents, in bar fights, and maybe even in suicides, but I never heard of anyone getting crucified until Histened to Stav Positive. Song after song on the disc references a mysterious double-crucifixion-"Sequestered in Memohis" takes place at a police interrogation, "One for the Cutters" tells the story from the view of a college girl who enjoys slumming with townies, and "Both Crosses" retells the event in an even more hallucinatory fashion-and at a certain point, the event stops sounding like lurld summertime gossip and enters the realm of small-town myth. Turning everyday tragedies into myth: few bands do it better than The Hold Steady. Craig Finn has a novelist's eye not just for detail but for character and narrative, while his bandmates supply joyous wall-of-sound arrangements as wild and innocent as anything the E Street Band ever came un with. Four albums in, The Hold Steady show no signs of wavering.

#### **BOB SINCLAR**

Live at the Playboy Mansion (Playboy Music/ITH)



Oh, Bob Sinclar, I can't guit You brought those great

Mighty Bop and Africanism albums into the world. but your last disc was a brain-breaking cheesefest. You sampled that C&C Music Factory song then threw some shouting on it, and they played it fucking everywhere-and every time I heard it I threw up in my So you'll have to excuse the fact that this miraculous

mix (newly re-released on Playboy Music) wasn't anywhere in my galaxy upon its original release. I'd pay good money to see someone experience the dozens of disco classics in this set for the first time. You put "The Hustle" right next to hipster tracks without caring what they'd think. Did Alden Tyrell actually let you use one of his tracks, or did you just do it anyway? Your mixing is superb--you must have spent weeks in your studio EOing the old records. This is the best disco mix I've dropped this set at the Mansion, everyone must have

gotten laid twice that night.

### The Bank Party Tent? WTF?



WILDLEE FISH GRIWKOWSKY AN OUTDOOR SOIREÉ GIVES FISH ANOTHER REASON TO PUT THE KIBOSH ON STELMACH'S HAPPY HOUR EMBARGO

Following an invite, I busted through several security checkpoints—including the pigs' squatting mobile street prison—and milled about in the Downtown Summer Tent Party. Oil City-level clampdown imported from across the street aside, the outdoor gig's a concept I'm totally behind (namely actually using downtown for something other than access to the other side of the city).

Inside the Jasper Ave shooter stalag, a capacity crowd of almost 800 paid pretty good attention to Daniel Wesley and Ill Scarlett. Ain't my kind of music in any effin' way, but harmless radio fare that keeps folks with, like, 15 CDs not organized alphabetically tapping their feet between shouts about how many drinks they've downed. Party time. Three Jägers and a couple beers later, I was in the swing myself, excited about how the new Budweiser cans are all metal and hot-looking and will surely encourage your children to drink. Mini Me is scheduled to be there Saturday, as well as lots of race-car drivers, so make sure you

Broken Nose bass-player Al Gothjelpsen, who also runs Pawn Shop and helps this thing coast, filled me in on the secret history of the cops unfortunately getting beaten up downtown, how the dicks who did it were drinking premium liquor, once again proving Stelmach's anti-shooter special scheme useless, especially with all the pre-drinking going on. The August I hike'll hit the poor hardest, we decided, including stressed-out students who might otherwise get loaded enough to talk to their lifemates for the very first time and eventually bone and have friendly ladies—including one who insisted laughingly that fish are not, uh. technically animals "What?" I argued—man, I love conversations like this. She eventually conceded, just in time for her friend to come in and say they aren't meat, because vegetarians eat them. Your tax dollars at work, folks

If you want to see something re-

ally fun, go to nomeanswhatever

com, NoMeansNo's website, and

is, in short, more than one way to stay punk, ladies

Speaking o' which and complete

Speaking o' which, and completing the circle of time, Raymond Biesinger's new band The Famines with drum-slammer Garrett Heath Kruger kicks total ass, as seen by a packed and sexy Pawn Shop crowd Thursday As always with RB, the merch we exceptional, especially the 8-track version of what I'm unofficially going to call Black Sea, thanks to his illustration of Turkey on the cover

It's a little weird seeing him sing ing without Trevor Anderson assgazing behind him, kind of like when one of your friends starts dating someone new. But life goes on-new drummer, new pedal—and Biesinger's songs have evolved from '66 garage beat to something chunkier and more menacing.

The word a evet! (That's "yes" in

GO TO NOMEANSNO'S WEBSITE AND LOOK A'T THEIR PRESS MATERIAL. NONE OF THE PHOTOS ARE LABELED CORRECTLY AND MANY DON'T EVEN HAVE BAND MEMBERS IN THEM. I FUCKING LOVE THE IDEA OF SOME EDITOR FALLING FOR THIS.

lots of Albertan children, which you think the premier and his mystic sky-god would like.

Okay, dumb argument—but not an impossible scenario.

Anyway, life under the tarp Quonset is actually pretty fun, with lots of

the photos are labeled correctly and many don't even have band members in them. I fucking love the idea

### SEEN IT LIVE - GREAT GIGS YOU MISSED LAST WEEK



Best TV Roots Moment | Remember that episode iil Chapelle's Show where Dave goes around town with John Mayer to prove that only white people dance to electric guitar? And when it's time for the black people to start dancing all of a sudden ?uestlove pops up from under a sheet in a Barbershop? Yearb, we remember that too PHOTO IIII ANDREA MCQUADE

### THE BLACK CROWES JUBILEE AUDITORIUM - JULY 17

In contrast to his bouncy, slithering brother Chris, Rich Robinson is almost consistently expressionless onstage. But just when you might mistake his stor face for true disinterest in the music whirling around him, he closes his eyes and lets his lingers dance across the neck of his electric guiltar for an elegant, considerate, and altogether passionate solo.

This is what The Black Crowes do best: they build full rock in rolling landscapes, and then allow the long-haired Robinsons to take turns carving paths into them, with the skill of a virtuoso and the easygoing nature of a hippie.

The setlist at their Thursday night gig at the Jube was thick with the heaviest grooves from the Crowes collection, including the pleas of "Walk Believer Walk," and the funky "Lickin," but not a single radio hit. This was a concert for the faithful. The reverential interplay between guitarist Luther Dickinson and Rich Robinson

on "Wiser Time" alone deserved an amen. They then kicked in the gospel-tinged numbers "Soul Singing" and "Movin" on Down the Line," Adam MacDougall's keyboards infusing the latter with an eerie, psychedelic feel. After the band finished it all off with a bursting cover of The Bands/Marvin Gaye's "Baby, Don't You Do It," with Chris and Rich exchanging the vocal lead, the congregation that had gathered in the Jubilee left, assured of their devotion. KATHLEEN BELL

### THEROOTS

EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE - JULY 18

After waiting 10 years to see The Roots, I was prepared to be undenwhelmed. I'm not going to lie: I was prepared to be let down. What I was not prepared for was a nearly three-hour extravaganza that was worth the I0-year wait.

Prom the moment the much-adored ?uestlove sat down at the drums to the final few moments of the call-and-answer "What do you want?" "Roots Crew!"

When do you want it?" "Right now!" incited by Black Thought, the show was jaw-droppingly.. fucking... awesome in a change of pace from previous Urban Metropolis shows (everyone remembers the painful five-hour debacle that preceded the Mos Def show), this epic show, commanded by an imposingly tall man in an army t-shirt, was tighter than a walnut.

Playing reworked and initially unrecognizable (though equally incredible) favourites like "Love of My Life" and "You Got Me" (with a vibrato ?uestlove singing Badu's refrain), the band members were plainly having a really great time, from the comically choreographed dance moves to the energetic sousaphone playing by the talented Damon "Tuba Gooding Jr." Bryson.

the crowd—was ready for the Next Movement. And we were prepared to wait another 10 years to get it again. ANDREA MCQUADE



### HIGHLIGHT - SWEET JEBUS!



#### Judas Priest - July 27 - Shaw Conference Centre

It's hard not to talk about Judas Priest and not utter the words "metal gods"--not only considering their song of the same name, but mostly because of their status in the world of rawk. After nearly 40-yeah, forty-years of making metal, the Birmingham quintet have appeared pretty much everywhere, including those silly Guitar Hero and Grand Theft Auto games, and there was that equally silly Mark Wahlberg movie based loosely around the band's plight to find a new singer after Rob Halford's (initial) departure, Rock Star, yeah, that's what it was called.

### **LIVE MUSIC**

### **ALTERNATIVE**

CHLOE ALBERT HULBERT'S \$15 @ the door.
JUNIOR BROWN & WAYLON SHERRINGTON HEN-NESSY CD RELEASE PARTY REDSTAR
MSTRKRFT & BOOKASHADE THE STARLITE ROOM \$30

HANK & LILY W/ GUESTS WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS MIKE SEDAVA AND TOM ROSCHKOV DUKE'S BAR

### POP & ROCK

BROCK SKYWALKER (ACOUSTIC) URBAN LOUNGE no

DEFAULT THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE (IN THE TENT)
LOS STRAIGHT JACKETS FEAT, BIG SANDY W/ THE JEFF MARTIN REXALL PLACE KIDS BOP LIVE EDFEST, NORTHLANDS DOC WALKER & JASON BLAINE EDFEST, NORTHLANDS

BLUES & ROUTS

INCOGNITO BLUES ON WHYTE

### ALWAYS OFTEN HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB

### DIS/CLUB MIGHTS PUB NIGHT THURSDAYS THE BANK Every Thursday.

III HARRY JAMES THE DOCKS Every Thursday I LOVE 80S NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE w/ Dexter No

Anarchy Adam. Every Thursday.

HIGHER LEVEL THURSDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Drum &

JUNIOR BROWN RED STAR Every Thursday.
MIA FELLOW BUDDY'S w/ DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy. Every

SALSA STVI F THURSDAYS THE BANK III TRA LOUNGE URBAN SUBSTANCE THURSDAYS GINGUR SKY LOUNGE

DJ GENERIC & DJ DEGREE VELVET UNDERGROUND

#### **ALTERNATIVE**

HANK & LILY, GHOSTKEEPER, RED RAM & SEAN

BREWER THE PAWN SHOP
THE MAYAN PROPHECIES THE STUDIO, MEAD HALL STO DWAYNE CANNAN SHERLOCK HOLMES CAPILAND

BILL BOURNE & MADAGASCAR SLIM MATCHBOX
COLT SEAVERS & THE DIRTY HABITS RENOEZVOUS PUB BRETT MILE HUI BERT'S SIO at the

SKAVENJAH W/ MUSTARD SMILE URBAN LOUNGE \$5

KASCADE THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE DUANE CANNON SHERLOCK HOLMES, (CAPILANO)
THE RED DEERS, PACIFIC CURLS, COLLEEN BROWN KRIS DEMEANOR, THE ZKARY MONSTER SASQUATCH

### BLUES & ROOTS

WEST OF WINNIPEG CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE

POP & ROCK SLOWBURN X WRECKS PUB CALAN & COLE JEFFREY'S CAFE \$15
HATEBREED AND ZIMMER THE STARLITE ROOM \$25 at

CHILLIWAK CHURCHILL SQUARE

IASON BLAINE CITY CENTRE AIRPORT

THE TREWS, TUPELO HONEY EDFEST, NORTHLAND'S 1877 MIKE DUO TRIO & TERRY MCDADE WESTWOOD UNITAR

#### IAN CHURCH \$15 at the door DIS/FLUE NIGHTS

TECHNO HIPPY CREW PRESENTS TGIPSYDAYS THE

RITTCH BITTCH BITTCH NEW CITY SUBURBS Every Fri CONNECTED FRIDAYS THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE Local house & international guest DJs. Every Friday.

DJ CLAY STONEHOUSE PUB Every Friday.
DJ EDDY TOONFLASH BUDDY'S Every Friday.
DJ LOOSE CANNON IRON HORSE Every Friday.
DJ SHAWNIBIS ON THE ROCKS Every Friday.

FORMULA FRIDAYS LEVEL 2 LOUNGE DJ Groovy Cury, DJ

FRIDAY NIGHT FREAK OUT NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE W/

THE MOD CLUB HALO Soul, R&B, Incle, Bnt pop, new wave, reggae & classic punk, DJs Blue Jay & Travy D. Every Friday.

NEON NIGHTS THE BANK Every Friday.

RED FRIDAYS THE DOCKS Military appreciation night. ROCK THE GLOBE WEEKENDS GLOBE TAP BAR & GRILL

SEXY FRIDAY 180 DEGREES Reggae and Top 40 w/ Genera tion IIVEXX & DLG-Unitt Every Friday

### ALTERNATIVE

CALAN & COLE JEFFREY'S CAFE \$15 at the door.

DREW MALCOM & LINDSY WALKER JEFFREY'S CAFE

GREG MILKA CROWE BAND W/ GHOSTKEEPER VELVET HIVE W/ DIODE, SPIRLOX, DREADNOUGHT, KALMPIX

BARRY GREENFIELD W/ RICK GARVIN HAVEN SOCIAL

SURBAN SYNDROME, FLOOD OF FIRE AND NINJA SPY

DRUMOCRACY, AS TIME FLIES, JEN PACHES, ASANI, THE SECRETARIES, HANK & LILY SASQUATCH FESTIVAL Fasyford AR

### POP & ROCK

MUSTARD SMILE URBAN LOUNGE SS at the door. STOWERIEN STATERED EARNERS MARKET TO AU SUPERSUCKERS W/ THE GET DOWN THE STARLITE

KIDS BOP LIVE, BEDOUIN SOUNDCLASH, DRAGON-ETTE, METRIX, JANN ARDEN EDFEST, NORTHLANDS

### BLUES & ROOTS

INCOGNITO BLUES ON WHYTE

### POP & ROCK

THE ZOMBIES W/ COLIN BLUNSTONE & ROD ARGENT

JUDAS PRIEST WY TESTAMENT SHAW CONFERENCE

MESHELL NDEGEOCELLO & GUESTS STARLITE ROOM

### AITERWATIVE

SHANE YELLOWBIRD CHURCHILL SQUARE BLUES & ROOTS

PETE TURLAND BAND BLUES ON WHYTE

### ALTERNATIVE

DEAD CATS NEW CITY
CRYSTAL CASTLES AND NINE INCH MAILS REXALL

#### **BLUES & ROOTS** LIZ MANDEVILLE BLUES ON WHYTE

#### DIS/CLUB NIGHTS

DJ RUDY ELECTRO BUDDY'S Every Monday. ECLECTIC NONSENSE BLACK DOG w/ Confederacy of Dunces, Dad Rock, TJ Hookah, and Rear Admiral Saunders

MUNCH ON METAL MONDAYS NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE

#### **BLUES & ROOTS**

### LIZ MANDEVILLE BLUES ON WHYTE

### DIS/CLUB NIGHTS

DJ ARROWCHASER BUDDY'S Every Tuesday DJ HOT PHILLY RED STAR Experimental indie rock, hip hop. COOL LATIN TUESDAYS FUNKY BUDDHA Dance Lessons.

#### **ALTERNATIVE**

THE MARTINGALES W/ GUESTS URBAN LOUNGE

JASON GREELEY SHERLOCK HOLMES, (W.E.M.)

#### **BLUES & ROOTS** LIZ MANDEVILLE BLUES ON WHYTE

### DIS/CLUB NIGHTS

BEATPARTY WEDNESDAYS STOLLI'S Every Wednesday.
FLASHBACK WEDNESDAYS THE BANK Mash-up retro

GLITTER GULCH WEDNESDAYS BLACK DOG w/ DJ Buster

ROCK OUT WITH YER BOX OUT NEW CITY Every

WILD CHERRY WEDNESDAYS STOLLI'S w/ Tripswitch. WILD STYLE WEDNESDAYS-HIP-HOP VELVET UNDER-

### **OPEN STAGE**

### SATURDAY

BLUES ON WHYTE 4-8:30 pm. Afternoon jam.
THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE 7-10 pm. Music and

COAST TO COAST 9 pm-2 am. w/ Troy P Wright.

EXPRESSIONZ CAFE IST SAT EVERY MONTH 1-5 pm MODANGO'S TEX CASE 7-10 om Hosted by Tommy Info

THE NEW TAPHOUSE 3-7 pm. Molson open stage, hosted

STRATHEARN PUB 2ND SAT EVERY MONTH 5-9 pm. Hosted val Toaso followed by karanke XWRECKS 7 nm.

### CHRISTAN

SONG WRITER'S STAGE HULBERT'S 7610 115 St. Hosted by Rhea March, Info: www.hulberts.ca.

DUSTERS PUB Hosted by The Mary Thomas Band.

EDDIE SHORTS 9 pm. Hosted by Rob Taylor, instruments

HOOLIGANZ PUB Afternoon jam hosted by Rock 'n Roll **OPEN MIC THE CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE** 

939F118 avenue Doors @ 7 pm Every Saturday NEWASATE PUB & GRILL 3-6 pm. Hosted by Willie NEWAS & CRAWDAD. O'BYRNE'S LOISU

O'BYRNE'S IRISH PUB 9 pm, Hosted by Joe Bird.
THE OYERDRIVE 1:30-5 pm, "Anything Goes" afternoon acoustic jam hosted by The Shufflehound.

TEDDY'S LOUNGE & EATERY 9:30 pm.

### MONDAY

LB'S PUB 9 pm-12:30 am. Hosted by Shaved Posse: Ken,

PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7 nm. Amustic fiddle iam hosted by Wild Rose Old Tyme Fiddlers Society, Info: Willy, 474-5270.
THE IVORY CLUB 8 pm. Hosted by Marty Vinko.
ROSE BOWL/ROUGE LOUNGE 9 pm-12 am. w/ Mike

### TUESDAY

THE DRUID 9 pm. Hosted by Chris Wynters.
SIDELINERS PUB 8 pm. All Star Jam. Hosted by Alicia Tait

THE TAPHOUSE 8:30 pm-1 am. Moosehead Jam, hosted by Mark Ammar, Dale Collins, and Noel Mackenzie.

### WEDNESDAY

HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB 7:30 pm hosted by Ido Vanderlaan CAFE BRITT 7-9 pm. Hosted by Paul LePage. THE ROCK PUB Acoustic night. EDDIE SHORTS Open jam, all gear provided. HOOLIGANZ PUB 7:30 pm. Hosted by Rock 'n' Roll Kenny. LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE 8 pm. Hosted by Brian

Gregg, Info: www.littleflower.ca. or 429-3624.
THE NEW TAPHOUSE 9 pm. Hosted by Danny Floyd.
PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7:30 pm. Bluegrass jam hosted by Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society.

### COMING JUL 24 — LOS STRAIGHTJACKETS Pawn Shop JUL 24 — TED NUGENT River Cree Casino

JUL III - SERENA RYDER Winspear Centre

JUL 27 — JUDAS PRIEST Shaw Conference Centre
JUL 27 — ME'SHELL NDEGEOCELLO Starlite Room JUL 27 - THE ZOMBIES, COLIN BLUNSTONE, ROD

IN 28 - ANI DIFRANCO Winshear Centro

JUL 28 - NINE INCH NAILS, CRYSTAL CASTLES Rexall

Aug 2 — WEIRD AL YANKOVIC Winspear Centre Aug 7-10 — EDMONTON FOLK FESTIVAL Gallagher Park Aug 8 — BLACK FRANCIS Starlite Room Aug 12 — NEWSTON FAULKNER Velvet Underground

AUG 12 - TOM PETTY & THE HEARTBREAKERS, STEVE

AUG 13 - MOTLEY CRUE, PAPA ROACH, BUCKCHERRY

AUG 17 — GERRY AND THE PACEMAKERS Century Casino

AND 17 - DEHRY AND 11P EVILLAMARES SERRINY LISTING AND 22 — OXTOPUS PROJECT Velvet Underground AND 24 - 3 DOORS DOWN, HINDER, STAND Resall Place AND 31 — ARROUGHNE Edmonton Event Centre AND 29 LAGWAGON Divincodile Lunge AND 29 — OASIS, PRIVA ADAMS Rexall Place AND 23 — DAGGREGET DONG DEATH Divine AND 24 AND 24 AND 25 — OASIS, PRIVA ADAMS Rexall Place AND 25 — OASIS, PRIVA ADAMS Rexall Place

AUG 31 - RACKSTREET ROYS Revall Place

SEP 2 - LEE 'SCRTACH' PERRY Urban Loung

SEP 3 — ANTIFLAG, CREEPSHOW Starlite Room SEP 3 — LEE SCRATCH PERRY Urban Lounge

SEP 5 — ALL AMERICAN REJECTS, FABER DRIVE, SIMPLE

SEP 5 — SIMPLE PLAN Rexall Place SEP 8 — D.O.A., RANCID, WEDNESDAY NIGHT HEROES

SEP 9 - BLOC PARTY, FOALS Edmonton Event Centre SEP 9 — SANTANA Rexall Place SEP 10 — TV ON THE RADIO Starlite Roc

SEP 17 - AGAINST MEI JAPANTHER ST ALVIA CARTEL

SEPIZ – AUDINS I ME., JAPAN I INC., SI, ALV Edmonton Event Centre SEP 13 – ELTON JOHN Rexall Place SEP 14 — DAVE STEWARY Winspeat Centre SEP 21 — DRUME TYLER Festival Place SEP 27 – ALICE COOPER Jubilee Auditorium

SEP 27 - KELLY CLARKSON, REBA MCINTYRE Rexall OCT 2 - SHERYL CROW, JIM CLIDDY Revall Place OCT 1 - OPETH Edmonton Event Centre



STEEPS TEA LOUNGE Acoustic open mic every Wed. Email Jessie at jl.jalbert@gmail.com by Mondays to book a spot

BUD'S LOUNGE Fri & Sat. 9 pm-1:30 am w/ Mr. Entertain

CHIMMY'S Thu, Fri, Sat 9:30 pm-1:30 am w/ Jimmy. CHRISTOPHER'S PUB Tue, 9 pm. w/ Sonia/Prosound. CROWN & ANCHOR PUB Thu, 10:30 pm. CLIFF'S PUB & PANTRY Sat & Sun w/ Krista, Liquid

**DEVANEYS** Thu, 8pm DOYLE'S PUB Fri, 10 pm-2 am w/ Cathy. Sat, 111 pm-2 am

THE DRUID Wed, 9 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment. D.W.'S PUB & GRILL Fri, 9-1 am. Hosted by Mr. Entertain-

ECCO PUB Mon, 9 pm-1 am w/ Sonia/Prosound Produc-

ELEMENT LOUNGE Wed, 9 pm.
FORT GAMING LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR Fri, 9 pm-1 am

FOX PUB Tue, 9 pm. FUNKY BUDDHA Sun, 9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment. GAS PUMP Tue & Wed, 9 pm-1:30 am w/ Gord's Live

HZO SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE Tue, Thu, Sat & Sun. HAWKEYES TOO Fri & Sat, 8 pm w/ Hot Karaoke Produc-

HILLTOP PUB Thu, 9:30 pm. HOOLIGANZ PUB Thu & Fri w/ Krista, Liquid Entertain-

INGLEWOOD PUB Thu 9:30-2 w/ Gordo, Fri & Sat w/ Jolly

KEEP IT SIMPLE (KIS) CLUB Tue & Sun, 6-10 pm. Except KNIGHTS PUB SOUTH Fri & Sat. 10pm-2am Gord's Live

LB.'S PUB Tue, 9:30 pm-1:30 am w/ The Karaokenuts.
THE LOCKER ROOM PUB Mon, 9 pm-1 am w/ Norm.
METRO BILLIAROS Tue, 10 pm – 2 am. w/ Lounge Lizard

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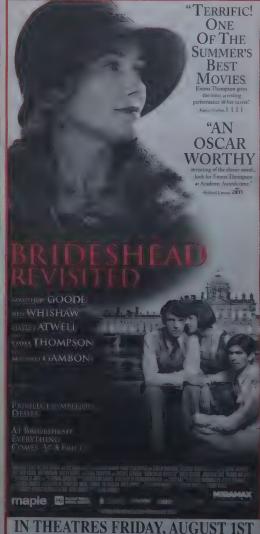
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MOVIE PREVIEW · EXTRA-CRISPY! · BY MICHAEL HINGSTON | 1680 word

#### CRISPIN GLOVER RETURNS TO EDMONTON WITH HIS LATEST FILM, WHAT IS IT?NOW SEE FINDS OUT JUST WHAT IT IS

CRISPIN HELLION GLOVER'S BIG SLIDE SHOW/WHAT IS IT?

Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel). Fri-Sat, July 25-26. Tickets: \$15, available in advance and at the door.

Film tours may come and go, but when Crispin Glover's name is attached to one, you can rest assured that it will be anything but ordinary. After all, this is an actor who is equally at home playing the nerdy underdog (Back to the Future) as he is a mute, sneering assassin (Charlies' Angels)—and he's surely the only actor working today who can boast of having played both Andy Warhol and Grendel

In addition to his wildly varied onscreen career, Glover is also a self-published author, screenwriter, and director, and it's the combination of these various personae that gives his stint this week at Metro Cinema (where he's presenting his 2005 film What Is It?) such an air of anticipation. Sure, he'll screen the film—which he wrote, directed, edited, produced, acted in, and personally financed—but afterwards there's an hour-long dramatic reading from several of his books (along with visual accompaniment, collectively called Crispin Hellion Glover's Big

Slide Show), with a Q&A and a book signing to round out the evening.

Glover has long been branded an eccentric, and, as you can probably infer from the above description, this madcap tour will definitely not convince anyone otherwise. He talked to SEE from his home in Los Angeles about his future as a filmmaker, the creative restraints that come with Hollywood funding, and why almost every other actor in What Is It? has Down's syndrome.

SEE Magazine: What Is It? has been getting generally positive reviews since its release in 2005, although critics are having trouble summing up what exactly it's about. How do you define it?

Crispin Glover: First off, most of

audience member to sit back in their chair, look up at the screen, and think to themselves, "Is this right what I'm watching? Is this wrong what I'm watching? Should I be here? Should the fillmmaker have done this? What is it?" And that's the title of the fillm. What is it that's taboo in the culture? What does it mean when the taboo is ubiquitously excised? The people asking these questions, they're genuinely asking something. There's an educational experience that's happening.

SEE: But it's not that the actual plot is about this critique of corporately funded film

CG: That's correct. Here's the other thing I'll say, which is more of an outline of the story: "Being the adventures of a young man whose..." Hold

SEE: It's interesting that you haven't been asked much about the plot. How do you feel about having the ideological side of the film focused on so heavily?

GG: I purposely focus on it, because I know that it's a major element of the content. It deals with taboo, and that element is important. The plot is really very simple. And that's okay, but it's not the reason for the film existing. It wasn't a plot that I came up with and said, "This is a great plot—I will therefore make this movie."

There were other reasons why the film came into existence, which had to do with promoting a concept for a whole different screenplay than this one.

The concept that I had put into this other screenplay, which I was

the concept of those characters not necessarily having Down's syndrome that was a taboo subject.

And I realized that was a true topic to deal with, and that I should continue in that vein when I made What Is It? That's why I don't veer away from it. That is what the content of the film deals with. The storyline, even when I started it as a short film, was a structure that was put in place in order to sit a concept upon.

SEE: So you decided to have most of the characters played by actors with Down's syndrome before you had this realization about the agendas of corporate funding. Why did you choose to showcase Down's syndrome specifically?

CG: Again—and I have to be careful about the way it's worded—this film does not showcase Down's syndrome. It has actors in it that play characters that don't necessarily have Down's syndrome, which is different than showcasing it. The reason that I did that in the original screenplay, which will now be part three of this trilogy [It Is Mine; the second, It Is Fine! EVERYTHING IS FINE, was completed in 2007], is a very different reason from why I did it in What Is It?

But I've found something interesting about people that have Down's syndrome for a long time. There can be a different sense of self. There's not necessarily a learned social

### "YOU WANT AN AUDIENCE MEMBER TO THINK TO THEMSELVES, 'IS THIS WRONG WHAT I'M WATCHING? SHOULD I BE HERE? WHAT IS IT?' AND THAT'S THE TITLE OF THE FILM."

the actors have Down's syndrome, but the film is not about Down's syndrome. Really, it's my psychological reaction to the corporate restraints that have happened in the past 30 years or so, where in any film that is corporately funded and distributed, any content that can possibly make an audience member uncomfortable in processarily excised.

I think that's a very damaging thing to the culture, because you want an on a second... [Pause.] It's interesting, I've been stressing this part less lately. I've been talking about this other element more, which is what we were just talking about. I'm not asked to repeat this that often, so I stumbled for a second. Anyhow: "Being the adventures of a young man whose principal interests are snails, salt, a pipe, and how to get home, as tormented by a hubristic, racist inner psyche."

trying to get corporate funding for, was to have a majority of the characters played by actors with Down's syndrome. I went to one of the major, so-called independent, corporate film-funding companies, and they were interested, but ultimately let me know that they were concerned about funding a film like that. It wasn't about the viability of having a majority of the characters being played by actors with Down's syndrome—it was



What is it? To Be Honest, We're Not Entirely Sure | But perhaps Crispin Glover can shed some light on his film What is it? this weekend at Metro Cinema PHOTO SUPPLIED

masking that happens with people that have Down's syndrome, and this can be quite interesting when one is in acting class: often acting exercises are there to take somebody's social masking away, by using exercises that distract people from putting those masks up. Now, that doesn't necessarily mean that somebody with Down's syndrome is a great actor, but I do think that there's something about it that can lead to very interesting performances.

**SEE**: Do you think that that honesty is part of the taboo? Why do you think the taboo exists?

CG: The taboo is not about working with people with Down's syndrome. The taboo that is happening in this film is that they're playing characters that don't necessarily have Down's syndrome. What the fear is-which I understand-is that they will be portrayed as being violent, or bad people, and for the most part these are sweet, very good-natured people. But this screenplay definitely does have violence and other things like that in it. That's where the taboo lays, be-Cause people can question, "Is it right to have somebody that has a guardian portraying these things?" I would answer to that that it is right, because the guardians have given permission for this, and it's used as a therapeutic element to be involved in an artistic environment and have artistic expression. My experience, certainly,

was that the people involved in the film had a good acting experience.

**SEE:** Obviously you're not looking at how much money you're making off the film to measure its success. How do you gauge whether the film is doing what you'd like it to do?

CG: If the film causes genuine discussion, and if people are truly thoughtful about it—and if I don't lose an incredible amount of money—that's what I'll consider successful. [Laughs.] I know that in the long run, even though it's an incredible amount of work and I won't recoup in terms of box office sales, but I'll be able to recoup by the fact that I'm touring with the film and performing the slide show with it, which is something that I'm proud of. That's fine. To me, that's success. And I am getting closer to that point.

SEE: You've been very forthright about the fact that you've taken on roles in Hollywood films in order to directly fund your own movies, which, in a way, are direct critiques of Hollywood.

CG: Well, I've shifted what my focus is in what it is that I'm pursuing [as an actor]. Earlier in my career I was quite selective about trying to find films that would psychologically reflect what my interests were—this would be right after Back to the Future came out, when I felt like I could have a selectiveness. The first film that I acted in after that was River's Edge, which is still a film I'm quite proud of. But subsequent to that, most of these films really didn't do that. They didn't necessarily make that much money, and they weren't necessarily that good for my acting career.

I put [actor/writer] Steven C. Stewart into What Is It? in order to make his screenplay into a sequel of case of cerebral palsy, and in 2000, one of his lungs collapsed-it became apparent that if we didn't shoot something soon, we may never get to shoot anything at all. It was right at that time that the first Charlie's Angels film was coming to me, and I realized that the money I made from that film I could put straight into funding the Steven C. Stewart film, and that's exactly what I did. And within a month after we finished shooting [EVERYTHING IS FINE], Steve died. I'm very relieved to have

SEE: When you look back on your career so far, are you happy with the choices you've made?

CG: Yeah. Everything informs something else, and things that I'we learned and dealt with are things that have gone into something like making What Is It? I feel much better about my career now than I ever have, mainly because I've completed these films. These things are very important to me.

### CRISPIN IN A NUTSHELL



Crispin Glover has played Herman Melville's Bartleby the Scrivener, Raskolnikov from Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment, and even Grendel from Beowulf, He's worked for Jim Jarmusch, Gus Van Sant, David Lynch, Milos Forman, and Oliver Stone—but in addition, to all this highbrow stuff, he's also been in a Friday the 13th movie, both Charlie's Angels films, and two entries in the Back to the Future trilogy (the second one, ill should be said, against his will).

He's been in close to 50 movies in all, but if you want a Crispin crash course, here are five key performances that capture his unique essence.

#### The Orkly Kid (1985)

Glover's longitime interest in no-budget "fringe" cinema dates back to his participation in Trent Hams' unique collection of vignettes: a documentary about a Salt Lake City eccentric named "Groovin' Gary"; a "dramatic reinterpretation" of that documentary starring Sear Penn as Gary, and an expanded remake of the second segment in which Glover gives *nis* version of Penn's performance. The climactic drag number, in which Glover dresses up as Olivia Newton-John and sings "Please Don't Keep Me Waiting" at a talent show, has to be seen to be believed. Hunt around the internet and see if you become a believer.

#### River's Edge (1986)

Arguably Glover's most inspired sustained film performance can be found in Tim Hunter's drama, inspired by a true incident in which a California teenager was killed in the woods by her boyfriend, who showed her body to several friends, none of whom reported the crime to the authorities. The film is resolutely drab and low-key—except whenever Glover walks onscreen as Layne, the group's manic leader. Sporting long, greasy headbanger hair under a wool cap, gesticulating urgently with his hands, and spouting half-baked theories of 'loyalty,' Glover creates a character who's at once laughable yet terrifying. It's the kind of spellbinding, following-its-own-rhythm performance Christopher Walken has made a specialty of.

#### Late Night With David Letterman (July 28, 1987)

Few remember Glover's indie comedy *Rubin & Ed*, but *everyone* vividly recalls the time he showed up for Letterman "in character" as the long-haired, platform-shod nerd he played in that film. Gasping for breath, nervously reading gossip items about himself from *L.A. Weekly*, challenging Dave to an arm-wrestling match, and then nearly kicking him in the face, Glover created seven of the most palpably awkward minutes in talk show history. Most likely a performance-art stunt that simply got out of hand, the segment nevertheless temporarily derailed Glover's career—he wouldn't land another movie role for two years.

### Wild at Heart (1990)

Perhaps the most entertaining side trip in David Lynch's sprawling road movie occurs when the story pauses for a few minutes so that Luia (Laura Dern) can tell us about her psychologically troubled cousin Dell—a kid who loved Christmas so much he'd wear the same filthy Santa suit all year long. (On the rare occasions when he'd dress normally, he'd still spice things up by putting cockroaches in his underwear.) Glover's finess moment: when Dell's mother discovers him hunched over the kitchen counter in the middle of the night, dozens of wadded-up peanut butter sandwiches piled up around him. Asked what he's doing, Glover pauses a second or two before shrieking, "I'm making my lunch!!"

#### "Ben" (2003

We atmost picked Glover's brief but intense appearance as "Train Fireman" in the opening sequence of Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man*, but we decided to go instead with this bizarre music video, created in connection with the 2003 remake of the horror movie *Willard*, one of Glover's few mainstream starring roles (pictured above). The Lynchian clip features Glover singing Michael Jackson's classic ballad in a stylized theatre; he carries a large rat on a velvet cushion through the audience, and before long, little white rats start emerging magically from women's cleavage. Then, men and women in Nazi uniforms rush the stage. Deeply weird, highly unsettling, and oddly beautiful—much like Glover himself.

### on screen

I KNOW: I'M PICKING NITS. BUT SOMEBODY HAS TO: VISITORS TO THE IMDB HAVE RATED THE DARK KNIGHT THE GREAEST FILM EVER MADE, WHICH IS ABSURD.

MOVIE REVIEW . THE BATMAN COMETH . BY PAUL MATWYCHUK 1770 word

### **Hell Bent For Ledger**



Once Upon A Time in The Vest | Heath Ledger perfects his glower as The Joker in The Dark Knight. PHOTO

**GREATEST FILM OF ALL TIME?** WELL, IT'S GOOD, BUT THE IMDB NEEDS A REALITY CHECK

Directed by Christopher Nolan, Starring Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Aaron Edchart, Gary Oldman, Michael Caine. Now playing, (Duh.)

talking with Jack Nicholson between scenes during the filming of Tim Supposedly, Keaton was fretting over how to play the scene, whereupon Nicholson smiled and told him, "Re-

That may be the key difference bewardrobe, a few hours in the makeup chair, and some well-worn trademark backstory (every time The Joker explains how he acquired the grotesque permanent ear-to-ear grin, he tells motive for his crimes against Gotham City other than wreaking the

But Ledger's performance doesn't seem chaotic: even though The Jokfeels like it emanates from the same, specific, unclean place. It's a big, how avoids Pacinoesque self-parody; it's a funny performance that never crosses over into camp; it's a highly rigourous performance that nevertheless constantly surprises you. Who knew the tight-lipped cowboy of Brokeback Mountain had this performance in him? Every time Ledger comes onscreen, you can't wait to course the tragedy is that now we'll never know what he might have had

Indeed, one of the disappointments ger's final scene is over, we still have of much less interesting characters, including crusading district attorney Harvey Dent (Aaron Eckhart), now transformed into the hideously deformed vigilante Two-Face, and whose internal moral battle is too pat and overly diagrammed to be dra-

Then again, all the thematic conflicts in Nolan's script (which he are set out a little too haldly. How do we know The Joker represents chaos and Batman represents order? Because Nolan keeps giving The Joker all sorts of monologues in which he says that he represents chaos while Batman represents order. On same script is wonderfully complicated, densely populated with gangsters, politicians, and cops, and full to a Joker-devised ethical conundrum had been more coherently directed-The Joker in an abandoned skyscraper while his right-hand man Lucius (Morgan Freeman) monitors his

progress on a giant wall of sonar display screens, is a visual botch, nearly

While I'm playing contrarian, here are a few more quibbles I had with The Dark Knight. I think the rumbly voice Christian Bale uses when he's in his Batman guise sounds silly. The whole subplot about Lucius using cellphones to spy on every half-baked. Harvey Dent's conversion from good to evil feels rushed. And even though the broadcast ends Batman's true identity could still remain ■ secret when a weasely lawyer goes on live TV to reveal he's actually Bruce Wayne.

I know, I know: I'm picking nits. But somebody has to: the last time I checked the IMDb, visitors to the site had rated The Dark Knight as the greatest movie ever made. Which is absurd, even though Nolan does many things phenomenally well. He paints his film on a big canvas-you really get the sense of how The Joker's actions affect the psychology of an entire city, and his conception of Gotham City as a dark, unmanageable labyrinth of criminal impulses, both organized and inchoate, is wonderfully vivid.

I love that all the characters are adults grappling with adult questions and quandaries, as opposed to the arrested adolescents of Burton's film. I love that the film feels incredibly dangerous and dark even though it contains no blood and no foul language It's m film of genuine scope and ambiremote, a superhero movie with too much on its mind is a welcome rarity. What can Nolan possibly do for an encore? Perhaps that's ■ question only The Riddler can answer.



### DVD DICTATOR • THE MOVIES YOU MUST BUY THIS TUESDAY

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### The Band's Visit

CAST | Sasson Gabai, Ronit Elkabetz, Saleh

The opening title card of this low-key gem "Once, not too long ago, a small Egyptian police band arrived in Israel. Not many remember this... It wasn't that important." Well, Sasson Gabai (as the conductor of a police band stranded in Israel) and Ronit Elkabetz

ORANGE JUMPSUITS!

### Harold and Kumar Escape From **Guantanamo Bay**

CAST | Kal Penn, John Cho, Neil Patrick Harris

The multicultural stoner duo's escape from Gitmo actually takes place off-camera with more than three-quarters of the film left to go. What follows is an interlude at a "bottomless" Miami pool party, a meal with an unexpectedly cosmopolitan hillbilly, several run-ins with a deranged FBI operative, and a laid-back toke with George W. Bush himself. It's a raunchy, politically incorrect love letter to America and the dream that one day, people will be judged not by the colour of their skin, but the contents of their bong.

Shine a Light FEATURING | The Rolling Stones, Jack White, Christina Aguilera, Buddy Guy

What band has attracted more prestigious cinematic collaborators than The Rolling Stones? Mick and the boys have worked. variously, with Jean-Luc Godard, Hal Ashby. Nicolas Roeg, The Maysles Brothers... and with this concert doc, they've got Mr. The Last Waltz himself, Martin Scorsese, calling the shots, with an all-star cast of cinematographers manning the cameras. All right. maybe it's not the greatest concert film in movie history, but it sure ain't the work of lazy dinosaurs either

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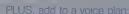
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MOVIE REVIEW - ROCKUMENTARIES - BY JONN KMECH 1747 words

### Girls, Guitars, And Gits



Sleater Kiddles | A young student at the Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls earns an A+ for presentation in Girls Rock! PHOTO SUPPLIE

THE CLEANSING POWER OF OBNOXIOUS ROCK MUSIC CROSSES GENDER LINES IN THE GITS AND GIRLS ROCK!

HE GITS

Directed by Kerri O'Kane. Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel). July 27-31 (9pm).

\*\*\*\*

RIPLS POCKI

Directed by Arne Johnson and Shane King. Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel). July 27-31 (7pm).

\*\*\*\*

"This is not a story about a band with a female singer, but one of a great American rock band," proclaims one of the surviving memhers of The Gits

This statement alone reflects some of the underlying prejudices still present in the modern rock world, which is still viewed as a predominantly male arena. Ridiculous as it sounds, bands are still regularly described as having a "female singer," like it's some kind of novelty. (It's pretty unlikely you'd ever hear a journalist call a band like Coldplay "that British band with a male singer.") Years after trendsetters like Chrissie Hynde and Kathleen Hanna, it's undoubtedly frustrating for female musicians that such a deep gender bias still exists.

Neither The Gits nor Girls Rock!, two new documentaries playing this week the Metro, delve into the reasons underlying rock's anti-fernale bias Rather, they address two instances where women have found empowerment through rock music, paying tribute to their courage while also conjuring up some feelings of deep sorrow—albeit for vastly different reasons. They offer few conclusive answers, but both films are uplifting and appealing to either gender.

One of the first lines in director Kerri O'Kane's The Gits is "What the fuck happened?" This state of shock permeates the film, and rightfully so: the fleeting nature of fame (and of life itself) is at the very centre of Kane's account of The Gits, their influence on the early '90s grunge scene, and the heartbreaking story of their singer Mia Zapata.

The Gits emerged from the underground Seattle scene at a time when it was the centre of the North American musical universe. Formed in 1986, the band developed a massive and devout following thanks in large part to the charismatic Zapata, an enigmatic yet charming and sincere songwriter whose voice combined the smooth soul of a blues diva and the unrelenting energy of a punk screamer.

But weeks after the band had met with Atlantic Records and seemed poised to break through nationally. Zapata was raped and murdered while walking home one night from a tavern. The band flatlined after several fundraising tribute concerts, and Zapata's killer remained at large for 10 years, until 2004, midway through the documentary's production, when police were able to make an arrest thanks to DNA evidence.

O'Kane shrewdly lets The Gits and their music do most of the storytelling. The members' love and emotional chemistry with Zapata becomes all the more evident as they reveal the shattering sense of emptiness her death created. As well, the knowledge of what is to come gives Zapata's haunting voice and intense stare even more gravity. But The Gits doesn't dwell on the end of her life, instead providing a cathartic tribute by all those still positively inspired by her 15 years later and showcasing the projects created in tribute to her, such

as a women's self-defence organiza-

Zapata's legacy extends to the girls of Girls Rock!, students at the allfemale Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls in Portland, Oregon-although most of them probably don't realize it. But the tragedy that plays out in Girls Rock! is a more subtle and insidious one: the self-esteem issues of young girls in North America. As the film opens, girls ranging in age from 8 to 18 are sectioned into genre-specific musical groups. With teachers such as Carrie Brownstein of Sleater-Kinney to guide them, they write, rehearse, and eventually perform their own original rock songs to a crowd of 800 people

But musical training is only one aspect of the camp. The instructors devote an equal amount of time to discussions with the children and their parents about the pressures girls face in our increasingly sexualized modern society. Girls Rock! focuses on four girls in particular. whose problems range from confidence and personality issues to homelessness and drug addiction. You wonder at times whether any of the girls at this camp are actually content and happy with themselves-but even this thought ties in with directors Arne Johnson and Shane King's examination of what a

The Gits and Girls Rock! couldn't be more different in tone, but they both vividly demonstrate how even "antisocial" rock music get help the people who play it overcome adversity and gain an appreciation for life Gender politics has nothing to do with it. As one of the young musicians in Girls Rock! puts it, "Personality connections—they can be superficial or they can be deep, but a musical connection always feels deeper."

### ABBA ABBA Hey!



Natural Bjorn Killers | Christine Baranski, Meryl Streep, and Julie Walters forget everything they ever knew about professional acting in Mamma Mia! PHOTO SUPPLIED

#### MAMMA MIA! BEGS THE **OUESTION: CAN A MOVIE BE** COMPLETELY TERRIBLE, YET STILL FANTASTIC?

Directed by Phyllida Lloyd, Starring Meryl Streep, Amanda Seyfried, Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth, Stellan Skarsgård. Now playing.

\*公众会会

How do you solve a problem like Mamma Mia!?

By any objective standard, this film version of the ABBA-licious musical is terrible. The direction is graceless, the vocal performances are karaokelevel at best, the choreography is utterly pedestrian, and the jokes-i-yiyi, the jokes!-are the lamest, most shopworn, cornball stage shtick imaginable, aimed straight at the tourist-trade rubes from the Midwest who made this show such a smash on Broadway.

And damned if the Friday-night audience I saw the film with didn't lap it all up: Stellan Skarsgård walking away from the camera to reveal his bare burn, Meryl Streep falling through the ceiling onto an air mattress, her legs sticking up in the air, Christine Baranski making jokes about her fake boobs... whether the characters were falling into the water with their clothes on or being caught with their clothes off, all of it was greeted with gales, gales of laughter from the fifty- and sixtysomething couples who'd filled the theatre (while all the cool people were taking in The Dark Knight). Can a movie truly be called bad if it gives its audience this much pleasure?

Maybe I'll have a better answer for that question next week, after I've finished picking my jaw up off the floor and "Chiquitita" has finally stopped echoing around in my brain. In the meantime, here's my best stab

Mamma Mia! may be terrible, but I've never seen a movie embrace its own terribleness as completely as this one does. I even think it might be terrible by design: every performance-the acting as well as the singing and dancing-is literally on the level that you'd find in an office talent show. Where most musicals try and wow you with the actors' superhuman vocal talent and the astonishing athleticism and precision of the choreography-you know, with skill-Mamma Mia! goes the opposite route and gives you a musical where literally anybody in the audience could sing and dance just as well as anybody onscreen. (Pierce Brosnan cannot sing to save his lifeand he gets two songs!) They could probably have replaced the direc-

character. When you see the actors bursting into song, you respond not but simply to how game these reallife celebrities are to play along, to clown around like regular folks and risk looking a little foolish. If anyone in the film could actually sing or dance, if the slightest hint of wit or sophistication were to appear in the script, or if a single musical number were staged with anything remotely resembling visual flair or comic inventiveness, the whole enterprise would deflate like a punctured vol-

I haven't mentioned the plot at all, because the plot hardly matters-for what it's worth, it's about a young bride-to-be (Big Love's Amanda Seyfried, who spends the whole movie behaving as if she's barely stifling

MOST SHOPWORN, CORNBALL STAGE SHTICK AIMED STRAIGHT

tor and choreographer too with no appreciable difference in the final product.

Everyone in the film hams it up in the most amateurish way-idiotically pantomiming the lyrics of the songs, striking self-consciously goofy "diva" poses as they sing into hairbrushes and reach for the high notes, dressing up in silly '70s jumpsuits just to demonstrate what good-natured sports they are. Even Meryl Streep doesn't register here as Meryl Streep, Greatest Actress Of Her Generation; she comes across as a 60-year-old mom acting in a community theatre production, having the time of her life, playing to her friends in the audience, overplaying every emotion, and not making the slightest pretense of inhabiting a

a fit of the giggles) invites three of her mother's old flames to her wedding in hopes of discovering which one is her father. What matters are those irresistible ABBA songs, confections as sugary and lightweight as cotton candy, which the actors keep launching into at the slightest provocation, with nary an attempt to smooth the transition from speaking to singing.

And those songs just won't stop coming at you. At the end of what seems like the final number, Streep peers into the audience and asks, "Do you want some more? Do you want us to do another one?!?" As the crowd roared that it did, I knew I was powerless to resist Mamma Mia!'s onslaught. This film-critic Napoleon had met his "Waterloo."









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### MOVIE REVIEW - 1,828 METRES LINDER - BY MICHAEL MCNICHOL | 495 words

### It's An Ad, Ad, Ad, Ad World Death Becomes Them



MARTINI LUNCHES! AFFAIRS WITH SECRETARIES! SOUL-KILLING SUBURBAN MARRIAG-ES! IN PRAISE OF MAD MEN

I don't often review shows in this mornings during the regular season But after becoming a fan of AMC's last week I was vindicated when it got 16 Emmy nominations. (Yes, again, but too bad so sad.)

As the second season premieres this Sunday night, I feel compelled hopes that everyone will watch-or at least pick up the nifty Zippo lighter-shaped Season One DVD box set. If you're still not into the show, I'll set it up for you quickly. It's mostly set in Sterling Cooper, a Madison Avenue advertising agency, in 1960. The agency is populated with randy taries. In the words of a client, "This istry-no matter what the decision,

I'm a sucker for great writing, and this show has it. Because it's on regular cable (not pay TV like HBO), it has to watch its language and violence Instead it relies on cleverness and innuendo instead of the F-bomb. Creator Matthew



Weiner who cut his teeth on The

of the subtlest, most adult (grownup, not naked) acting I've ever seen. The show's near-total lack of at times, but more real. We almost feel like we're intruding on these

But as bombshell office manager Joan puts it, "Sometimes when people get what they want, they realize how limited their goals were."

After a day of revisiting the first

- · Betty, in a filmy negligee, shooting her neighbour's pet pigeons with
- · Peggy flirtatiously doing the cruelly shuts her down
- · Roger throwing up in front of a client after climbing 23 flights of
- · Betty getting off by leaning

- · Sal, the agency's closeted art director, refusing the advances of an out-of-town client
- · Don's disdain for the beat poetry
- · Peggy product-testing the "Relax O-Cizor" (a pair of vibrating panties marketed as an exercise device)
- mail attempt
- · Midge throwing the TV out the window
- · Putting the crème de menthe in the watercooler on election night
- · Don realizing that his poetic pitch for the Kodak "carousel" slide projector is based on lies

We're starting the second season this Sunday in 1963, a few years after Sterling Cooper loses the Nixon I recommend starting a drinking game. Take a shot every time someone on the show drinks or smokes. You should be tanked by the first

After the critical success of Mad Men last season, other regular cable networks have decided that it's time to give HBO and Showtime some competition. Last week I sat down for the premiere of The Cleaner, an A&E original starring Benjamin

Bratt plays a hardened family man and former junkie who, along with a crew of misfits, intervenes to help addicts mend their ways before they end up in jail or the grave. It's still ways than one.

The look is interesting. This is not Beverly Hills. It's more like the sun-baked concrete ugliness of Reseda. Our hero will do pot with his wife, but won't smoke a cigarette in

because of the writing, which is stiltnot listed! We don't advertise! People find us because they need us!" weren't plunging a hypo into an



WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT THAT A COMEDY ABOUT A HOMICIDAL MORTICIAN COULD BE AS BLAND AS JUST BURIED?

HIST BURNED

Directed by Chaz Thome. Starring Jay Baruchel, Rose Byrne, Sorgio Di Zin Graham Groone Onons Fri July 25

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Oliver Whynacht is a loser. In his mid-20s, he's a grocery-store delivery boy who's so neurotic that he develops a nosebleed whenever he's nervous. Which is all the time. And, to add insult to injury, his estranged father has just died and left him the family business-a nearly bankrupt funeral home in the town of Elders' Bluff. A nice town to die in.

The pathetic but lovable Oliver (Jay Baruchel) isn't alone in his plight; he arrives in Elders' Bluff with his brother Jackie (Sergio Di Zio), who flirts like crazy and could have been a stud. One problem: he's a priest. But once Oliver inherits and starts to fall for the beautiful mortician Roberta (Rose Byrne), things take m turn for the worse. A drunk driving accident provides Oliver with his first customer-and a secret to share planning even more accidents in order to keep the funeral home open. In other words, they try to pull the business into the black by placing

Buried is a darkly funny unromantic comedy about the things we do for by turns funny, odd, and disquieting, have that "politely wacky" feel of shows like Robson Arms and Corner Gas, and that's a style that doesn't hold the audience's attention for the length of a feature film.

Baruchel is the real draw in Just Buried-you may recall him as the star of the short-lived Judd Apatow TV series Undeclared or the laughingstock of Clint Eastwood's gym in Million Dollar Baby. As the quirky Oliver, he walks the thin line between endearingly hapless and annoyingly geeky, later transforming into a much darker, murderous nerd, with admirable skill. Byrne also gives a fine performance as the manipulative and startlingly practical Roberta. But these two are still stock characters, and all the charm in the world can't make them seem

The supporting cast (led by the hysterical Graham Greene as the funeral home's caretaker, accountant, and senior VP) fares better-perhaps it's easier to forgive stock characters when they're only on the margins of the story and the actors are having so much fun playing them. Thomas Gibson's overly cheerful deputy and Nigel Bennett' suspicious chief of police, as well as various cranky neighbours, provide a lot of amusing

Just Buried is dark, but in a very harmless, very Canadian way that will remind you less of Fargo than of the low-key comedies that came out of Ealing Studios in the '40s and '50s. Older moviegoers uninterested in the likes of Pineapple Express may find it an intelligently written, appealingly underplayed alternative... or they could just as easily wait a few months for it to turn up on the CBC. It'll look right at home.



**Encounters At The End** Of The World

Nightly @ 9:10 pm Sat & Sun Matinees @ 3:30 pm





Sat & Sun Matinees @ 1:00 pm Before the Rains Nightly @ 7:00 pm & 9:00 pm Rated TBA

Sat & Sun Matinees @ 2:00 pm

#### MOVIE GUIDE WHAT'S PLAYING IN THE THEATRES



Fox And His Friend | David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson keep the sexual tension simmering between Agents Mulder and Scully in The X-Files: I Want in Believe. PHOTO SUPPLIE

#### **OPENING THIS WEEK**

#### **BEFORE THE RAINS**

Linus Roache, Rahul Bose, Nandita Das, and Jennifier Ehle star in Asoka director Santosh Siwan's period drama about a British spice grower in rural India who runs afoul of local customs when he enters into a romance with a married woman.

#### CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND

Richard Dreyfuss, Teri Garr, Melinda Dillon, and François Truffaut star in Steven Spielberg's unusual 1977 science fiction film about ordinary. Americans who are mysteriously drawn to a remote location in Wyoming after sighting UFOs. Metro Cinema: Sun, July 27 (4/15om)

### CRISPIN HELLION GLOVER'S BIG SLIDE SHOW/WHAT IS IT?

An evening with the eccentric actor/director/artist/author, featuring a dramatic reading from Glover's illustrated storybooks, a screening of his 2005 experimental film What Is It? (which features a cast largely comprised of actors with Down's syndrome), and a question-and-answer session. Metro Cinema: Fir-Sat, July 25-26 (7pm)

#### E.T.: THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL

Henry Thomas, Dee Wallace, Robert Mc-Naughton, and Drew Barrymore star in Steven Spielberg's beloved 1982 science fiction film about a young boy who befriends a kindly alien he discovers in his backyard. Metro Cinema: Sun. July 27 (Zpm)

#### GIRLS ROCK!

Directors Arne Johnson and Shane King's documentary about an all-female "rock in' office and profil camp," where the students are taught lessons in empowerment and self-defence along with guitar-shredding tips. Screening with the short animated film **Sleeping Betty**, Metro Cinema: Mon-Thu, July 28-31 (Doct.)

#### THEGITS

Director Kerri O'Kane's powerful documentary about the influential Seattle punk band The Gits, whose promising career was cut short by the 1993 rape/murder of their charsmatic frontwoman, Mia Zapata. Metro Cinema: Mon-Thu, July 28-31 (9pm)

#### IT STARTED WITH EVE

Deanna Durbin, Charles Laughton, and Robert Cummings star in Flower Drum Song director Henry Koster's 1941 musical about III young man who hires a woman to impersonate his fiancee for his dying father... and who must continue the charade when the man miraculously recovers. Royal Alberta Museum: Mon. July 28 (Bpm)

#### JUST BURIED

Rose Byrne, Jay Baruchel, and Graham Greene star in writer/director Chaz Thorne's Canadian-made black comedy about a young man who inherits a struggling funeral horne, only to learn that the comely resident mortucian is killing people in order to keep the place supplied with clients.

#### STEP BROTHERS

Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly, Mary Steenburgen, and Richard Jenkins star in Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby director Adam McKay's goofball comedy about two emotionally stunted 40-year-old men who become reluctant siblings when their parents get married.

#### THE X-FILES: I WANT TO BELIEVE

David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson, and Amanda Peet star in director/co-writer. Chris Carter's big-screen extension of the spooky TV series, in which FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully reunite in order to investigate a new outbreak of paranormal activity.

#### **ALSO PLAYING**

#### **ENCOUNTERS AT THE END OF THE WORLD**

Werner Herzog's latest documentary about humans stubbornly pitting themselves against harsh natural environments lacks the focus of *Grizzly Man*, but any opportunity to go traveling with Herzog as your tour guide is not to be missed.

★★★★☆

#### HANCOCK

This superhero satire has been sold and marketed like another Will Smith mass-audience blockbuster, but its dark tone, muddled backstory, and abrupt plot reversals will only appeal to a handful of moviegoers. Will you be one of them? We sure were, despite its flaws

\*\*\*\*

#### HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY

Guillermo del Toro is second to none when it comes to designing monsters and otherworldly creatures, but he's more erratic when it comes to dialogue and pace. His flaws and his strengths are both on display in this one, with the flaws ultimately gaining the upper hand.

\*\*\*\*

#### JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH

Rotten to the core? No, not really: in fact, the worst thing you can say about this old-fash-, ioned, kid-friendly 3D adventure is that's it's merely pleasant and forgettable.

★★☆☆☆

#### **MEET DAVE**

This *Meet* is rotten.

#### MONGOL

If you like watching warriors on horseback galloping across modescreen sunset, boy are you in for a treat! The production values are top-notch, but this is still a dull, square epic whose attempts to portray Genghis Khan as a misunderstood family man are... well, unconvincing at best.

#### SPACE CHIMPS

How can you not love a cartoon about chimpanzee astronauts? When it's a charmless, cookie-cutter piece of corporate product like Space Chimps that's when

★★☆☆☆

#### WALL-I

Tremendous even by Pixar's impossibly high standards. Just don't let it fool you into renting the movie version of *Hello*, *Dolly!—that* movie is truly terrible.

\*\*\*\*

#### WANTED

Shallow, flashy, and kind of morally reprehensible. But Angelina Jolle is always loads of fun to watch when she's in slinky-maneater mode, and so we'll give this one a summer oass.

★★★☆☆



visit us online at www.magicianterntheatres.ca



#### Just Buried

Nightly 7:00 & 9:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday Matinees @ 2:00 pm

STATE OF STREET

Visit us online @ magiclanterntheatres.ca



#### **BEYOND THE BLURBS · ONLINE CRITICS HAVE THEIR SAY**



#### THIS WEEK: HIGHLIGHTS FROM TERI GARR'S UNBELIEVABLY **AWESOME INTERVIEW WITH** THE ONION "A.V. CLUB"

On Tootsie | "I just saw Tootsie again recently. I hadn't seen it in twentysomething years. And it's the same thing! Pretty, nice girls being taken advantage of by slimy men. They put a man in a dress, and he's supposed to On One From the Heart | "God, that was long know what it feels like to be a woman. But of course he doesn't Uthink what Dustin (Hoffman | says is, 'I realize now how important it is for a woman to be pretty. And I wasn't pretty.' God! That's all you realized? Jesus Christ. Oh well. Don't quote me. Actually, [Laughs.] I'd be like, "What does that mean?"

quote me. That movie was made by sexist men. I can say that now, because Sydney [Pollack] isn't with us anymore. [Laughs.] But he was a fine director. He just wanted the beautiful, blonde, cute, shiksa girls to be nice and shut the fuck up! [Laughs.] God, I'm bad. But that's what he wanted. And that's what the world wants, I think, I'm bitter, Bitter!"

and tedious and hard. Francis [Ford Coppola] was outside in a trailer, speaking over a loudspeaker to direct us. That was not easy. Over the loudspeaker he'd say, 'Let's do another take and this time let's try acting Ms Garr'

Actually, you know what I think? Francis don't care. Now I know what they want.' So wanted it to be a woman's point of view. This was an Italian guy—a humourless Italian guy. pushy and ornery. And that's how I figured Oh, i shouldn't say that. He's got humour. out how to get jobs in this town." Anyway, he wanted a woman's point of view, but I don't think he had a clue. But he makes On Her Brain Aneurysm | "It's actually amazing good movies, let's face it. The Godfather was that I'm alive. Everyone I tell that I had an like an opera. It was so beautiful."

On Auditions I "I used to read the trades when I was in high school, and I would go to all these now I'm walking! I haven't been in a wheelauditions. I auditioned for West Side Story chair in three months, and it's amazing. I did and got kicked out. A couple days later, my friend said she was going to the callbacks, l'm really grateful for my dancers' discipline and I said, "I'm going with you." And she said, God's not done with me yet. If She's up there 'You can't go! You got dinged!' And I said, 'I She said, 'Your time isn't up yet.'

I went back and I got the job, just by being

aneurysm always says, 'Oh, my cousin died from that.' Well, I didn't, so I'm amazed. I was in a wheelchair, and I had to go to rehab. And



### Scotiabank Theatre Edmonton with IMAX®

# **SHOWTIMES JULY 25-31, 2008**

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130 AVENUE & 50 STREET • 472-9779
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ANDK REVIEW TRANSVESTITE COLLAGE - BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 688 words

# A Cut-And-Paste Masterpiece

him by he scruff of the neck, to pull him back.
"Get at!" he said tightly. "You've no right to some in here." Luckily, Mary must have reently pollehed the front step with

# Cardinal POLISH OF JOHNSON'S WAX

which gves a full, rich, lustrous shine, but
MAKE; FOR A slippery surface on which to
place a nat. The mat skidded from under him
and he vent down likela sack of King Edwards.
Roy yasked him to his feet and pushed him off the
STEP INTO THE FRONT GARDEN.
His feet caught up in the bushes and he fell backwards,
finding himself relegated to the second division.

Hands quickly got to his feet. Humiliated, he straightened his coat. "You can't push me around," he said.

"Shut up!" said Roy. "You're just a libertytaker, but this time you're on the receiving end and it eels blooming terrible, doesn't it?"

ands muttered some uncomplimentary phrases, but it seemed Roy had gained the upper hand. He was surprised how good he'd been at throwing his weight about. His Chump-chop muscle tone, so hated on dressing up days, had

404

Scissor Sister? | A sample page from Woman's World, a collage novel about a 1960s transvestite. IMAGE BY GRAHAM RAWLE

WOMAN'S WORLD IS PART FAR FROM HEAVEN, PART GLEN OR GLENDA?, PART RANSOM NOTE, ALL GENIUS

WOMAN'S WORLD

By Graham Rawle, Counterpoint Press, 450 pp. \$25

There has never been another nove like Woman's World.

I'll let author Graham Rawle describe his feat: "Woman's World has been collaged from individual fragments of text (around 40,000 in all) found in women's magazines published in the early 1960s. It has taken five years to produce."

Did you get that? This is a novel one with a coherent, linear plot and a cast of characters as well-rounded as any you'd fine in a "conventional" story—that the author has assembled But what makes Woman's World into more than a technical stunt is the fact that its form perfectly reflects its content. The book's narrator is Norma Fontaine, a young single woman living in suburban London in the early 1960s with her brother Roy, obsessed with clothes and homemaking, she breathlessly parrots all the fashion and decorating advice she's absorbed from popular literature—and since Rawle has used articles and advertisements from vintage women's magazines as his raw material, Norma's speech can't help but be peppered with almost dementedly breathless descriptions of "simply wonderful Brillo soap pads" and "raucous red Boulevard court shoes with daintily styled baby doll toes for up-to-the-minute elegance."

But the full extent of Rawle's inge-

thing so smoothly written and containing so many delightful turns of phrase that if you simply heard it being read aloud, you'd never guess that each part of the sentence had been sewn together like a Frankenstein monster. Rawle has an especially adept way with similes a metaphor is "as plain as a hard-boiled egg". Roy's face looks "white and strained like sauerkraut": a skirt Norma tosses in the fireplace grate "blazes intensely out of control for a moment like a holiday romance with a girl from Hartlepool."

It's remarkable how a book assembled within such narrow strictures manages to create so many subtle effects: Rawle always keeps it clear what Roy is thinking even though he only tells the story from "Norma"'s perspective; and he also captures

### RAWLE'S INCREDIBLY LABOUR-INTENSIVE COMPOSITIONAL METHOD MEANS EVERY PAGE OF WOMAN'S WORLD IS LITERALLY A WORK OF ART.

not with a pen, a typewriter, or a computer, but solely with a stack of old magazines, a pair of scissors and several pots of glue. It literally looks like # 450-page ransom note: every page is a not of retro fonts in various sizes, with even the page numbers pasted onto the bottom corners by Rawle's own hand.

Rawle's incredibly labour-intensive compositional method means not only that every page of the book is literally a work of art, but also that every single sentence becomes unusually compelling—you can't help but marvel at how cleverly he'll take words and clauses from two, three, four, even five different sources and link them up into a brand-new sentence that makes grammatical and literary sense.

nuity becomes apparent a few chapters into the narrative, as we gradually become aware that Norma isn't, in fact, a real person, but the alter ego of her "brother" Roy, a handsome young man whose job, love life, and reputation are all put in jeopardy by his irresistible compulsion to crossmakes more sense than ever-Norma's feverish, hyper-feminine personality is something Roy has conthousands of women's magazines. Imagine a cross between Far From Heaven, Fight Club, and Edward D. Wood Jr.'s Glen or Glenda? and you'll have something close to Woman's

Just make sure you imagine some-

the poignancy of Roy's situation, effectively playing his genuine yearning to lose himself for a few hours within a whirl of feminine happiness against "Norma"s serene but ridiculous confidence in her own glamour whenever she goes out in public in her lipstick, her wig, her favourite red pixie jacket, and her "powderblue stud-fastened skirt by Alexon."

I love thinking of all those magazines Rawle destroyed in order to create this book—all those glossy pages, with holes now cut into them where the best sentences used to be. To think that Norma used to live in those holes, scattered over thousands of pages. How lovely to know that Rawle has gathered up all those pieces of her soul and finally reunited them.

#### ARTS NEWS - NOTABLE HAPPENINGS FROM THE THEATRE TO THE GALLERY

HUGE TRACTS OF LAND!

#### Jubilee Auditorium: A Silly Place?

We've always thought that the nice thing about \$pamalot\$ is that it brings together two gigantic groups of nerds who would normally never associate with each other—i.e., musical-theatre geeks, and fanboys who can recite every scene from Monty Python and the Holy Grait, including the Swedish subtitles—under one roof. This national touring production of the show that taught us that supreme executive power derives from a mandate from the masses, not some farcical aquatic ceremony, plays The Jube from July 29-August 3, with tickets available from Ticketmaster.

HOUSE PIECES OF PAPERS

#### Mad Fold-Ins

If we're reading the press release for Jacques Clement's *Luclole* (which runs until August 30 at Harcourt House) correctly, the exhibition's main attraction is that Clement likes to draw on really big pieces of paper. Like, huge. Really, really huge. Like, we're talking a piece of industrial-grade paper so big it contains room for dozens of vibrant 12x5" drawings—and so sturdy that he can repeatedly fold the whole thing up like a road map and basically carry an entire exhibition around in his backpack. It's the rare art show where it might be just as interesting to watch the art getting unpacked as it is to see it hangling.

HUGE POLITICAL CONTROVERSIES!

#### The Skills To Naysay The Bills

Finally, here's an item from the Arts News e-mail inbox. Latitude 53 is accepting proposals for an upcoming publication responding to Bill C-10—that's the controversial bill that would allow the Heritage Minister to deny vital tax credits to Canadian films she deemed "offensive" or "contrary to public policy." The gallery is looking for two-page artworks that reflect the theme of "gratulitous acts of free speech," although pieces appropriate for a DVD insert will also be considered. The submission deadline is August 22; more info can be found by visiting www.latitude53.org and clicking on "Critical Publications."



Your Mother Was A Hamster, And Your Father Smelt Of Elderberries | Yep, we could probably go on quoting lines from

CROSSTALK - VISUAL ARTS 1682 words

### REAL Or No REAL?



THE AGA SQUANDERS A GREAT CONCEPT WITH THE NARROW FOCUS OF THEIR CURRENT "REAL" EXHIBITION

This week, Jill and Mandy return to the AGA to take a gander at the REAL exhibition, and they're not exactly pleased by what they find.

Mandy: This exhibition had some pretty lofty ambitions. The show is built around the idea of "real," a word whose definition is as open to interpretation as "truth" or "justice" or "art." In this particular case, the AGA is using it to refer to artists working in the abstract realm. What did you think, Jill?

Jill: When the open submission call went out for this show, I was pretty excited over its potential. The idea of "real" as it relates to art-what an intriguing concept, and an even better question to pose at a time when the arts seem to have no specific movement or style to look towards. I personally know quite # few individuals and groups who applied for a spot in this show, which could have been quite pivotal in Edmonton's quest for a current artistic voice

However, AGA assistant curator Marcus Miller (who-full disclosure-is also a friend of ours) seems to have decided that instead of letting this curatorial idea bloom into new



approaches or allow for the questioning of how art relates to reality at the present moment, REAL should instead be about all the abstract painting that we Edmontonians have been looking at for, oh, I don't know, 20 years? The show itself features work by just four (yes, only four) individual artists. Each artist's work takes up one wall in the small curatorial experimentation room that the AGA hosts, and they are all abstract painters. I am skeptical that any of them (with the possible exception of Tim Rechner & Lucy the Elephant's "unlearning" collaboration) raise any questions about art and reality. To me, this is a bit sad. I hate to say it, but this is very indicative of the real state of the visual arts in Edmonton (at least at the higher-up levels).

Mandy: Um, okay: I would have to agree with most of what you just said-though I think I understand why Miller chose the work that he did. The four artists represented-Paul Bernhardt, Maria Madacky, Tim Re-

chner (in collaboration with Lucy). and Marianne Watchel-use abstraction as a unifying style and concept, but their individual approaches vary considerably. I think this exhibit ideally would have been a compilation of a number of artists-certainly more than four-who each approach image-making within a wider scope. Large-scale abstraction represents a very small portion of what is "real," and what contemporary art can be, in Edmonton or anywhere else.

Jill: Exactly. I think that's what I was trying to get at. I know it's not fair of me to put all these artists under that same umbrella, and by no means am I suggesting that their art is lesser, or that its meaning is anything short of what it is. But I think the AGA has a huge responsibility (a) to put forth an idea of the arts as something that is accessible to a certain extent and (b) to promote the idea that art has many facets.

Mandy: It is frustrating to constantly be represented as an artistic community in such a limited way. What was really interesting about this show, and what's caused the most buzz around this exhibition. is the inclusion of Lucy. Having an artist collaborate with an elephant to create an abstract painting raises all sorts of interesting questions about the state of contemporary art.

Jill: Yes. I thought the inclusion of Rechner's collaboration with Lucy the elephant was quite clever. I have always wondered whether Lucy does any of her "paintings" with aesthetics in mind or if she just thinks whipping around an object that makes weird marks is ■ great big hoot. It's a pretty interesting concept to put two entirely different "artists" together: Lucy and her kinda valuable/expensive art pieces, and Rechner's instinctual method of working. It questions a lot of things-REALity included.

> REAL will be on exhibit at the Art Gallery of Alberta until September 21.

30; "Summer Show" A selection of artists' artwork from all over Canada, Hours: Tue-Sat, 10 am-5 pm. ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA ENTERPRISE SOUARE #100, 10230 IASPER AVE., 422-6223 Until Aug 10: "Red Tile: First Nations Art in the Late 20th Century" & "Drawn Grandmaison," Hours; Mon-Fri 10:30 am-5 pm. Thu 4-8 pm free admission. Sat & Sun 11 am-5 pm, Info: www.artga ARTSHAB STUDIO GALLERY 3RD FL. 10217-106 ST. 439-9532 Hours: Thu 5-8 pm, or by appointment. Info: www

artshab.com. REARCLAW GALLERY 10403-124 ST., 482-1204 Info:

ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL 10186-106 ST., 488-6611 EXT.

AGNES BUGERA GALLERY 12310 JASPER AVE. Until AUG

CARINET GALLERY NOKOMIS CLOTHING, 10318-82 AVE.

info: www.instituteparachute.ca. THE CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE 9357

118 AVE, 471-1580 Info: www.thecarrot.ca.
CENTRE D'ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA 9103-95 AVE., CHRISTL BERGSTROM'S RED GALLERY 9621-82 AVE.

439-8270 "Mother and Child" by Christl Bergstrom, Hours:

DOUGLAS UDELL GALLERY 10332-124 ST., 488-4445 Hours: Tue-Fri, 9:30 am-5:30 pm, Info: douglasudeligallen

EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY MAIN FLOOR ATRIUM, ENTERPRISE SQUARE, 10230 JASPER AVE. Hours: Daily 7 am-11 pm. Info: www.extension.ualberta.ca. FAB GALLERY 1-1 FINE ARTS BUILDING, U OF A CAMPUS Hours: Tues-Fri, 10 am-5 pm; Sat, 2-5 pm.
FRINGE GALLERY 10516 WHYTE AVE., 432-0240 Until

JULY 30: "A Thousand Places": photography by Naomi Marathalingam. Info: www.paintspot.ca. FRONT GALLERY 12312 JASPER AVE., 488-2952 Info:

GALLERY AT MILNER STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, #7 CHURCHILL SQUARE Info: 496-7030.

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY 3RD FL., 10215-112 ST., 426-

JOHNSON GALLERY 7717-85 ST., 465-6171 Edmonton of tinters working in-studio throughout the season. Info: LANDO GALLERY 11130-105 AVE., 990-1161 Hours: Mon-Fri.

10 am-5:30 nm: Sat 10 am-4:30 pm. Info: www.landogal-LATITUDE #1 10248-106 ST 423-5353 Hours: Tue-Fri. 10

am-6 pm; Sat, 12-5 pm. Info: www.latitude53.org.
MACEWAN CENTRE FOR THE ARTS 10045-156 ST. Hours: Mon-Fri, 10 am-8 pm; Sat-Sun, 12-5 pm.
MCMULLEN GALLERY 8440-112 ST., U OF A HOSPITAL.

407-7152 Hours: Mon-Fri, 10 am-8 pm; Sat-Sun, noon-6 pm. NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE 9704-111 AVE., 474-7611 Studio

hours: Mon-Fri, 10 am-2 pm. Gallery hours: Mon/Wed/Fri, 9:30 am-2:30 pm; Tue/Thu, 9:30 am-4 pm & 6-8 pm. Info: NORTH EDMONTON SCULPTURE WORKSHOP 10546-11

ST., 482-2685 Daytime viewing by appointment: 482-2685
PETER ROBERTSON GALLERY 10183-112 ST., 455-7479 Hours: Tue-Sat III am-5:30 pm. Info: www.probertsongal

PLANET ZE DESIGN CENTRE 10055-80 AVE., 428-3499 Ongoing displays include functional sculpture and jewelry by Sandra Sing Fernandes, metal sculpture by Linda Maines and Bianca Khan, and paintings by Quentin Maki and Tim PORTAL GALLERY #300. 9414-91 ST., 702-7522 Until SEP

12: Marcie Rohr. Reception AUG 12, 7pm-10pm. Hours: Tue-Fn. 12-6 pm; Sat, 12-7 pm. Info: www.theportalgallery.com. SCOTT GALLERY 10411-124 ST., 488-3619 Hours: Tue-Sat ■ am-5 pm. Info: www.scottgallery.com. SCUR.PTURE STUDIO & GALLERY SHERWOOD PARK.

662-4160 Figurative and abstract sculpture by Horst D. Info

SELFRIDGE POTTERY STUDIO 9844-88 AVE., 439-9296 Hours: 11 am-5 pm. Info: www.selfridgeceramicart.ca SNAP GALLERY SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ALBERTA PRINT ARTISTS 10309-97 ST., 423-1492 Hours: Tue-Sat 12-5 pm. Info

STUDIO GALLERY II PERRON ST., ST. ALBERT, 460-5993 Hours: Thu, 12-8 pm; Fri, 10 am-6 pm; Sat 10 am-5 pm.
TU GALLERY 10718-124 ST., 452-9662 Info: www.tugallery

URBAN ROOTS 10418-82 AVE. 438-7978 Hours: Wed-Sat.

VAAA GALLERY VISUAL ARTS ALBERTA ASSOCIATION 3RD FL., 10215-112 ST., 421-1731 Hours: Mon-Fri, 10-4 pm; Sat. WEST END GALLERY 12308 JASPER AVE., 488-4892 Hours

Tue-Sat, 10 am-5pm. Info: www.westendgalleryttd.com.
WINDERRAR HOFRRALIHAUS 10159 WHYTE AVENUE Hours: Tue-Fri, 6pm-3am; Sat-Sun, 3pm-3am WORKS GALLERY #200, 10225-100 AVE., 426-2122 Hours Mon-Fit, noon-5 pm. Info: www.theworks.ab.ca. **20CALO** (1026-95 ST., 428-0754 International crafts, artwork, and tropical flowers. Hours: Mon-Wed & Fri, 10am-5 pm; Thu, 10am-9 pm; Sat, 9am-5 pm; Sun, noon-5 pm.





## Feel Like Bacon Love



MYMESSY BEDROOM JOSEV VOGELS
AUTHOR SARAH KATHERINE

LEWIS LEARNED TO LOVE HERSELF, LOVE HER BODY, AND LOVE CHOCOLATE EVEN MORE

Martha Stewart, eat your heart out. I'm pretty sure she's never written a cookbook that includes a scene where a guy begs a woman to rub a Baby Ruth chocolate bar all over her face while he masturbates.

Author Sarah Katherine Lewis says it wasn't until she actually heated up the Baby Ruth to facilitate the smearing that it dawned on her why her client was so insistent on Baby Ruths. "His shit fixation was gross, sure." Lewis writes in Sex and Bacon. a series of smart, potent, and effin' funny essays that connect the

spises "bullshit pro-adult industry 'sex positive' rah-rahism" but admits "it's hard to hate your own body when it has become your best friend and strongest ally in your pursuit of a livable wage."

Her life as a sex worker stands in stark contrast to the sterile office environment in which she later finds herself after taking a cubicle job as a corporate writer—a world where bodies are concealed, and no one appears to have assholes or farts. "For the first time in my professional life," Lewis writes, "my coworkers are unaware of whether I have pubic hair or not."

In between the stories of Baby Ruth turds and concealed office assholes are lovely musings on the body and food, from the bizarre practice of eating sushi off naked bodies to why Lewis would rather shove fresh strawberries into her mouth than into her "coochie."

It may be hard to imagine how an essay about how a guy was willing to pay \$150 to drink your pee out of a Dixie Cup (until he insisted on bring-

MY BIG ASS AND THICK THIGHS PAID THE RENT FOR A SCORE OF YEARS—NOT BECAUSE I WAS ASHAMED OF THEM, BUT BECAUSE I BRAZENLY DISPLAYED THEM.

dots between food, sex, and the body, "but no more terrible or degrading than any of the other contortions we went through to make our customers come. Frankly, I preferred getting paid to eat microwaved candy to pretending to fingerbang my own pussy through the cotton gusset of my thong."

A former sex trade worker and also former "fat girl," Lewis learned to love her body, not by starving it (that just kept her fat and hungry) but by feeding it full-fat, delicious food and well. by getting men off by rubbing Baby Ruths all over her face.

The adult industry tells a lot of unforgivably ugly lies about women. female desire, and erotic love," Lewis writes, "but in general it also taught me to walk with my back straight and my head up. My big ass and thick thighs paid the rent for a score of years-not because I was ashamed of them, but because I brazenly displayed them. And of course I wasn't to every customer's taste-but that's where the egalitarianism of the industry comes in, because every girl is going to be attractive to a certain population of buyers if she simply allows them to admire her and reinforces that desire by demonstrating her own belief in herself.... I'm not saying the industry isn't disgusting-I'm saying it's equally disgusting, that it's an Equal Opportunity Employer of Filth."

As Lewis herself writes, she de-

ing his own wineglass) can sit next to a recipe for wicked spaghetti sauce or berry cobbler, but Lewis makes it all work beautifully and searnlessly, seducing you with her finger-licking good fried chicken and her tales of trysts with smoky, leather-jacketed lesbians.

Her recipes, like the body, are messy forgiving and delicious full of "glugs" of this or however much you want of that.

She has little tolerance for vegetarians—"no matter how earnestly you tell yourself that meat-free soy paties are 'better than the real thing.' Ha! Sure—like a punch in the face

from a surly political vegan is better than getting tongue-kissed by your own sweet lover."

Her love of meat comes to a head in her essay "The Bacon Quotient." Tired of the measly three or four strips of bacon often served with breakfast. Lewis conducts her own experiment to discover The Bacon Quotient Three pounds, it turns out, is the magic amount (though she cooked up a fourth just to be sure)

"I didn't want to be mistaken," she says. "to think that I'd reached the BQ, only to realize an hour later that I'd been premature."

By the end of the collection, one is left with not only an immense appetitle but also a refreshing perspective on the absurd relationship we have with our bodies, both individually and collectively

"What if we didn't have to whore our bodies to discover their value?" Lewis asks. "What if we just knew our bodies deserved love and care? What if we woke up feeling beautiful and treated ourselves like beautiful creatures all day long and woke up the next morning and did it again? How would our lives be different?"

Well, sadly, we probably wouldn't have Sarah Katherine Lewis' wonderful and thought-provoking essays to amuse us But, the trade-off might be worth it Maybe





SEX ADVICE 11,214 words

## One Is The Homeliest Number That You'll Ever Do

SAVAGE LOVE DAN SAVAGE

STRANGERS' COMMENTS ABOUT MY UGLY APPEARANCE LEAVE ME CONSIDERING PLAS-TIC SURGERY... OR SUICIDE

I'm a 22-year-old female, and the older I get, the more often I am ridiculed by straight men for being ugly. Just last night, a man asked me if I was jealous of my pretty friends and if I wished I could look like them. I know I'm unattractive, but I've met wonderful girls who I think are at least as physically unattractive as me who have managed to find someone to love them. I need to know if I should even bother anymore-it's hard to find a job, make friends, and basically just find people who will treat me like a human being. I shower every day, try to dress well, and wear makeup, but none of it seems to help. It appears

that my only options are plastic surgery or suicide, and the older I get, the more appealing the latter becomes. And no, I don't have body dysmorphic disorder, I am absolutely sure.

P.S.: I can't trust my friends to tell me the truth, because they love me, which either (a) clouds their judgment, or (b) makes them reluctant to hurt my feelings. The only commentary I have to go on comes from people I don't know who feel a need to inform me that I'm ugly. But I'm not sure. Should I send you a picture?

Anonymous

You can send me a picture if you like, Anonymous, preferably one taken by the brand-new therapist that you're going to get. Because you may or may not have body dysmorphic disorder, and you may or may not be ugly, and your friends may or may

not be shining you on, but you clearly need more help than I can give you in this space. But I'll accept your self-diagnosis and say this much...

Things will get better as you get older. Not your looks, Anonymous, if your looks are truly the problem, but your peers. People are assholes in their 20s, and pouring alcohol into assholes doesn't make 'em stink less. Straight boys raised to believe that women exist for their pleasure will sometimes feel personally affronted by unattractive women, and alcohol makes them feel entitled to comment. But the passage of time makes monsters of us all, Anonymous, and the young, relatively hot straight guys tormenting you today are the bald, paunchy, and (if there is a God), burn victims of tomorrow.

So the numbers of guys who can appreciate what you bring to the table—your humanity, your compassion, your ability to love—will grow over time, kiddo, and you may find in middle age what your girlfriends found as young adults. Unless you

DRUGS A PROBLEM?

COCAINE ANONYMOUS CAN HELP

off yourself in the meantime, Anonymous, in which case you won't be around to watch those cruel, drunken boys deteriorate, wither, and die. And why would you want to cheat yourself out of that?

I've been with my husband for two years and married for one. We eloped in June of last year and didn't have any sort of honeymoon. Instead, about a month later, my husband went on an overseas trip with an old college friend. "Bill" is poor and my husband is well-off, so my husband paid Bill's way. I joked at the time about how my husband was going on his honeymoon with Bill. Fastforward to last week: My husband tells me he is going to a conference in Europe and meeting Bill there. I thought, "Okay, no big deal." Well, the day my husband was leaving, I found out that he was spending the first four days with Bill, Bill's fiancée, and Bill's sister just hanging out, and that the actual conference didn't start until the end of the week. I didn't say anything before he left, because I was so caught off-guard. Today I went to a therapist who, after hearing all this, asked me if I thought my husband was gay.

We only have sex once a week, because I've forced him to make it an appointment with me. He does not have a sex drive at all: nothing, nada. So my question is: should I dump the therapist or is she onto something? My husband comes back from his trip on Sunday and I'm dying inside. Help! Really Uncertain

Do you really want to stay married to a man who makes you feel this way, RU, even if he is straight?

It's been weeks now since you republished that "canned ham" comment about the aesthetics of women's genitals. The battle of the sexes is creepy enough, Dan, when it's being fought by people who want to fuck each other. At the end of the day, straight and bisexual men and women know that they want what the other side has got. But when lesbians and gay men do it, not only is it cruel and dehumanizing, but it makes Republicans smile. Conservatives already do a fantastic job of making it seem like lesbianism is the ghastly consequence of man-hating; the more gay men keep going on about how much women disgust them, the more it makes them seem like deranged misogynists, rather than sane men who just want to sleep with other men. (Never mind that if misogyny caused gayness, the entire Republican party would be a mad gay orgy.)

Too Sad For A Pseudonym

Your points are well taken, TSFAP, and I hear you. Hell, I agree with you: I frequently tear into faggots who play up their disgust with female genitals in a misguided attempt to justify their gayness. But my comparison of female genitals to canned hams dropped from great heights wasn't grounded in disgust, TSFAP, so much as it was unfamiliarity. And, hey, I deserve some credit for comparing women's genitals to something I will put in my mouth. Ham? Love it! Baked or canned, dropped from a great height or grilled to perfection-can't get enough! It would have been infinitely ruder of me to compare women's genitals to something I would never, ever put in my mouth, something like... uh... women's genitals.

And, excuse me, but haven't you been paying attention? The entire Republican party is a mad gay orgy. Brace yourself, TSFAP!

So, Dan, I agree that men in their 30s and 40s who "date" legal teenage boys have a good chance of being scummy. But what about men who make no bones about just wanting some of that sweet twink ass and are honest with their justout-of-high-school playmates? Is the 40ish man who says, "I am not in love with you. I might think you're cool. I do think you're hot. Let's fuck!" a refreshingly honest learning opportunity for a barelylegal boy just out on his own? Or does the inherent power imbalance mean all older guys are selfdeluding scumbags?

Thirtysomething Realizes Oldsters Lack Luster

The campsite rule applies here: So long as older persons leave younger persons in better shape than they found them, it's all good. And emphasizing to a young, horny, potentially lovestruck teenager that, while there may be mutual attraction. love isn't in the cards is one way an older person honours the campsite rule. But, as I wrote last week, since almost all older men willing to sleep with teenagers—gay or straight—are total scumbags, the older person should be regarded as scum until proven otherwise.

Download the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at www.thestranger.com/savage mail@savagelove.net





ASTROLOGY · JULY 25 TO 31 · BY THE KID | cruisinthecosmos@hotmail.com

### **CRUISIN' THE COSMOS**

#### PISCES(FEBRUARY III - MARCH 20)

You can take things way too seriously — especially defeat — but if you're still breathin' then you ain't been beat. Just consider it a minor setback. Change your tack, and before you know it, you'll have the wind at your back. This week, it ain't a major blow, it's the wind pushin' you in the direction you oughtta go!

#### ARIES(MARCH 21 - APRIL 19)

If you really wanna succeed, the best way to do it is make sure your mind's been freed. That's 'cause most often the strategies that bring victory come outta left field and ain't easy to see. This week, when the game starts to get hard, stay in the bettin' cause you'll draw a wildcard!

#### TAURUS(APRIL 20 -MAY 20)

Unlike your earth sign counterpart, Capricorn, this ain't the week to look upon gifts with scorn. In fact, what you lacked has been laid out before you and failin' to take it'll make Nature abhor you. This week, when the cosmos sends you a gift, don't send it back or you'll create your own karmic rift!

#### GEMINI(MAY 21 - JUNE 20)

No matter what anyone says, crime never pays. Whether white-collar embezzlement or armed robbery, you can't take what's not yours and be bad-karma free. Workin' hard's the only way to ensure that both your karma and cash stay clean 'n' pure. This week, it's all about the Benjamins, and if you keep your eyes on the prize, that's what you'll be pullin' in!

#### CANCER (JUNE 21 - JULY 22)

When the chips are down and you get pushed around, put a snarl on your face instead of a frown. Don't just go out a suckah like that, show those futhahmuckers where you're really at. This week, don't even pause — when somebody steps, show 'em why crabs have their claws!

#### LEO/IIIIV23 - AUGUST 22)

It don't matter how bright a star you are, you'll need a producer to put you in the picture. Luckily, this week you'll be brushin' elbows with bigwigs, and if you make an impression, you'll pick up some good gigs. You might have to work hard to win the part, but it'll be for sure if you show you already know it by heart!

#### VIRGO(AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22)

To the victor go the spoils. Unfortunately, this has a habit of makin' the victor spoiled. In fact, the higher your rewards lift you aloft, the more likely you are to go soft. This week, keep on your guard by not forgettin' what it was like when things were hard, and stay sane by rememberin' it could be that way again!

#### LIBRA(SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)

Contrary to a certain popular epigram, there's not only one way to get ahead. Sometimes the oi' fashioned route of simply givin' ass a boot will see you shoot your way to the top of the pile, and without fakin' a smile. This week, if you put your nose to the grindstone, you'll succeed on merit alone!

#### SCORPIO(OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)

The reason you're feelin' the urge towards isolation is 'cause you instinctively sense the change you're facin'. It ain't about bein' depressed or life bein' messed, it's about gatherin' your strength before a big test. Right now, the more time that you spend with you, the easier it'll be to ride this one through!

#### SAGITTARIUS(NOVEMBER ZZ - DECEMBER ZI)

Brute strength may work for someone like The Hulk, but you're lackin' his physical bulk. Nope, you're gonna have to be crafty and rely on your mind to get yourself outta this bind. This week, don't worry 'bout what's wrong or what's right, 'cause like Butch Cassidy said, "there's no rules in a knife fight!"

#### CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19)

This week's gonna be one of those careful-what-you-ask-for-you-might-get-it situations, so when you do receive it, give it some good observation. They may say you ought not look a gift horse in the mouth, but ain't that how the Trojans' fortunes went south? This week, stay on your guard when gettin' your prayers answered don't seem too hard!

#### AQUARIUS (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)

You're like an artist who's been staring at their painting for so long that all trace of objectivity's gone. You may think it's finished and done, but if you took time away, you'd realize it's just begun. This week, take a step back, and you'll soon know how to fill in what your piece currently lacks!

You can contact The Kid at cruisinthecosmos@hotmail.com.











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# IZARRO WORI D

#### **EVERY ONE'S AGAINST ME**

JONESIN' CROSSWORD BY MATT JONES ©2008 Jonesin' Crosswords (editor@ionesincros

1 Series of shots 6 Curvy letters 11 "Gone Country" network 14 Add, like sound effects at an editing board 15 Expressed viewpoint

16 Bread for a pastrami sandwich 17 Street where tires never slip? 19 Bullring cheer

20 Adirondacks components: abbr. 21 It can be ordered soft or crunchy 22 James T. Kirk, by state of birth 24 Nintendo DS competitor, for short 25 People who cross out a substance that

causes an immune response? 26 Ample-sized property for a home 30 Therefore

3) Cell phone display items 33 Japanese horror film series about a cursed videotape that inspired a similarlytitled American remake

35\_-pitch softball 38 What opposites are written down on? 42 "Unsafe at \_\_ Speed" (Ralph Nader

book) 43 Berry of "Things We Lost in the Fire" 44 Schedule an engagement

45 One may carry the best of the wurst 46 With 48-down, Oscar category

48 Where to store a type of brakes? 53 Sounds of "I get it"

56 Four-door alternative 57 When repeated, a song-like taunt 58 Kirks

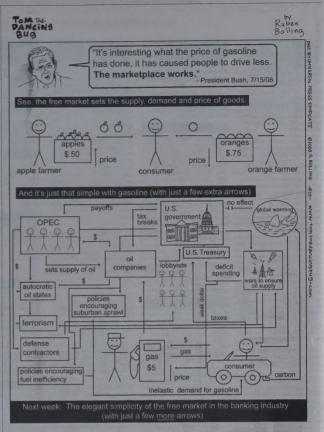
59 Johnson of "Plan 9 From Outer Space" 60 "Hey, toss over that pamphlet on break-

ing up monopolies"? 64 Yoko who funded the Central Park Strawberry Fields memorial 65 "SNL" cast member Will ## "Keep on whispering in \_\_" (line from "What I Like About You") 67 Button on a DVD player: abbr. 68 Like some chard or steak 69 African antelone

1 Rapscallion 2 Women in a tree? 3 Celebratory shout 4 Seven, on some watches 5 GM emergency service 6 Vote off, a la "Big Brother" 7 Words of agreement 8 Honorary title given to Bill Gates 9 Earth Day prefix 10 Stitching closed 11 Director Cameron 12 Birthday balloon material 13 Cold temperature range 18 "Damaged" girl group Danity\_ 23 Tic-tac-toe line 26 Bottle resident 27 Rowing machine units 29 Series set in Las Vegas 3) Merino noise 32 "Raggedy" doll 33 Big find at an archaeological dig 34 Manhattan, for one: abbr.

39 Toronto NHL team, to fans

40 Ring around the holy? 41 Crunch targets 45 Easy addition to a potluck party 46 Male guinea pig 47 Return from the grave? 48 See 46-across 49 Hardly a packed house 50 Lawyer/author Scott 51 Makes a scarf 52 8-bit units 54 Earthling 55 Edgar Bergen dummy Mortimer\_ 61 When brats want something 67 Prefix for lateral 63 Word part: abbr.







#### **INTERSECTIONS** · PHOTOS OF OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS



t5k

Someone left their art on one of the pillars that support the High Level Bridge. They must have really wanted it to stay there, because the only way to access this spot is by boat. PHOTO BY IAN JACKSON

FIRST PERSON - EDMONTON STORIES - BY GAYLEEN FROESE | 642 words

# Burning Fires In Castle Downs

YOU MAY NOT BE AS AT RISK OF GETTING SHOT THERE, BUT THE NORTHSIDE CAN BE PRETTY GHETTO

When I first moved to Edmonton, I was job hunting and in need of an apartment with low rent, utilities included. A downtown waiter who had seen me looking at apartment listings over lunch had volunteered advice. Castle Downs was a good choice, he'd told me, because apartments were cheap and "you're way less likely to get shot there than in Mill Woods."

That was all I needed to know. My roommate and I moved into a small Castle Downs walk-up with little to recommend it except the view from the balcony doors of the pleasant patch of woods next to our building.

We quickly discovered that our generically twee apartment, with its

peach carpet and white moulding, had a troubled past. My roommate's bedroom door had a badly patched, fist-sized hole in it. The bathroom door, which didn't shut right, seemed to have been kicked in the shin. Dunning letters to the former resident arrived each week, and our intercom was often buzzed by her acquaintances, who seemed not to have been told that she had moved. They would demand that she come downstairs and, presumably, fight them. We didn't mind all of that. It was cheaper than cable.

We were less thrilled with the other residents of the building, who seemed to have been partying like it was 1999 since roughly 1999. One in

particular, a broad and ruddy man my roommate called "Shirtless in September," had a gift for disturbing sleep throughout a five-block radius or more.

From the beginning, as we fought traffic up and down 127 Street and our new friends asked us when we planned to really "move to Edmonton," we considered moving out of that apartment as soon as we had reasonably stable jobs and found a place that appealed to us. As is usual with such vague plans, though, it took a little push to get us out the door. Ours came as we were standing on the balcony one warm spring afternoon, watching the woods burn.

"I can't remember," I said to my roommate. "Have they set the woods on fire four times this week, or five?"

"I'm not sure," he said.

I know that seems to be the sort of thing a person would remember, but it wasn't uncommon for our view of the woods to stand in for a fireplace. Our neighbours—Shirtless among them—never seemed to get the hang of building a firepit without creating a miniature forest fire. We'd been hoping they'd learn from their mis-

takes. Maybe start smaller fires that they could put out with a bucket or two of water. So far, though, we'd seen no sign of progress.

We mulled over the number of fires that week as a single fire truck bounced across the newly awakened grass of the adjacent park. It skidded to a stop next to a group of men who were watching the fire with, primarily, disappointment. It couldn't have been more obvious that they were the responsible parties if they had been holding roasting sticks and marshmallows.

"I can't believe this," a fireman roared as he jumped from the truck to stand in front of them. "I have been out here five times this week to put out your fires!"

"Oh," I said, turning to my roommate. In unison, we said, "It's five!"

By the end of the month, we'd found a place in Westmount. We liked it and I'd like to say we never looked back, but nostalgia is a powerful thing. Every once in a while, we'd put on tank tops, buy cheap beer, light a few dozen candles, and think about the good old days in the burning woods of Castle Downs.



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